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Zircon U–Pb age and Sr–Nd–Hf isotope geochemistry of Permian granodiorite and associated gabbro in the Songliao Block, NE China and implications for growth of juvenile crust

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article info abstract

Article history: Received 20 June 2009 Accepted 9 October 2009 Available online 21 October 2009

Keywords: Post-orogenic Late Palaeozoic magmatism Granodiorite Gabbro Lithospheric delamination Crustal growth NE China

Post-orogenic granitic and associated mafic rocks from northeastern (NE) China consist of granodiorite and gabbro intrusions. We report here upon new U–Pb zircon ages, geochemical data and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic data for these rocks. LA-ICP-MS U–Pb zircon analysis yields an age of 262.8 ± 1.0 Ma for the granitic rocks, and a uniform age of 262.1 \pm 0.7 Ma for the gabbro. Most of the granitic and mafic rocks are characterised by low K₂O + Na₂O, and pertain to the subalkaline series in the total alkali–silica diagram. The granodiorite samples show low (${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr$)_i ranging from 0.700 to 0.705, positive $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values from +0.3 to +0.8, and large variation in $\varepsilon_{Hf}(t)$ values of between −4.0 and +2.5, indicating that both newly underplated basalt (70–80%) and ancient lower crustal sources (20–30%) contributed to their origin. Furthermore, positive $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values with two-stage model ages (T_{DMZ}) of 1123–1260 Ma, together with Nd model ages (960–1000 Ma), suggest an important episode of crustal growth during the Meso-Neoproterozoic beneath the Songliao Block. In contrast, the investigated gabbro is characterised by relatively high (${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr$)_i ratios (0.707–0.708), negative $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ (−5.9 to −5.3) and $\varepsilon_{Hf}(t)$ values (−5.0 to −2.3), implying that this was derived from an enriched mantle source. The geochemical data indicate that the granitic magmas underwent separation of clinopyroxene, hornblende, K-feldspar, plagioclase, Ti-bearing phases (e.g., rutile, ilmenite, titanite), apatite and zircon during their evolution. Whereas the gabbro is characterised by low MgO (2.92–3.92 wt.%), Mg# (35–41) and compatible elements content, such as Cr (10– 68 ppm), Co (16–31 ppm) and Ni (5.7–33 ppm), features of a more evolved mafic magma. There is no evidence that the granitic and mafic rocks were affected by crustal contamination during emplacement. Our interpretation is that the two coeval intrusive suites were both formed in a post-orogenic extensional setting, related to lithospheric delamination or 'collapse' of the Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB) (Xingmeng orogenic Belt in China).

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1. Introduction

Phanerozoic granites are widespread $({\sim}3 \times 10^5 \, \text{km}^2,$ [Wu et al.,](#page-13-0) [2007a](#page-13-0)) throughout northeastern China (NE China). Recent studies indicate that many of these granites contain a large proportion of juvenile crustal material, thus suggesting that the Phanerozoic was an extensive period of crustal growth for this part of the world ([Wu et al.,](#page-13-0) [2000a; Chen et al., 2000; Zhao et al., 2000; Jahn et al., 2000a,b; Wu et al.,](#page-13-0) [2001, 2002; Chen and Jahn, 2002; Jahn, 2002; Wu et al., 2003a,b; Cheng](#page-13-0) [et al., 2006; Ge et al., 2007;Wu et al., 2007a](#page-13-0)). It is precisely because of the

special significance of this part of Asia to models of global crustal growth that systematic isotopic and petrogenetic studies of all of the Phanerozoic granitic intrusions in NE China is needed.

NE China is generally regarded to form part of the Hercynian Fold belt; as such, most of the granites present in NE China were traditionally considered to be of Late Palaeozoic (or Hercynian) age [\(Wu et al., 2000a](#page-13-0)). Recent investigations, however, have indicated that in fact these intrusions were mainly formed during the early Mesozoic [\(Wu et al.,](#page-13-0) [2000a, 2007a\)](#page-13-0), and further, that 'true' Late Palaeozoic granitoid rocks are rare, being distributed only in the Jiamusi Block in the east and in the Great Xing'an Range in the west [\(Fig. 1a](#page-1-0)) ([Wu et al., 2000b, 2001, 2002](#page-13-0)). In the Songliao Block [\(Fig. 1a](#page-1-0)), Late Palaeozoic granites have not yet been recorded. Accordingly, in order to further understand the spatio– temporal relationships of the voluminous granitic rocks in NE China, precise geochronological and geochemical data are required.

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^{0024-4937/\$} – see front matter © 2009 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved. doi:[10.1016/j.lithos.2009.10.009](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.lithos.2009.10.009)

Fig. 1. (a) Tectonic divisions of NE China (cited from [Wu et al., 2002](#page-13-0)). (b) Geological map of the study area that includes the sampling localities for the granodiorite and gabbro samples.

For a long time, the existence of Late Palaeozoic, mafic magmatism in the east of the Jilin and Heilongjiang provinces has proven controversial. For example, the mafic–ultramafic intrusions distributed at Hongqiling and Piaohechuan (Cu–Ni deposits), in the east of the Jilin Province, had been considered to have been emplaced during the Late Palaeozoic [\(Qin,](#page-13-0) [1995\)](#page-13-0); more precise geochronology, however, now suggests that they are the results of Indosinian magmatism [\(Wu et al., 2004a\)](#page-13-0). Although, some researchers have documented, recently, the presence of Late Palaeozoic mafic magmatic activity in the area of Yanbian, eastern Jilin Province in the Chinese literature (e.g., [Sun et al., 2008; Zhao et al.,](#page-13-0) [2008\)](#page-13-0), the source features and petrogenesis of these mafic rocks have not yet been regarded.

Accordingly, this study provides good opportunity to further document the ages, and the chemical and isotopic characteristics of Late Palaeozoic granodiorite and associated gabbro in NE China; herein we undertake a systematic isotopic and geochemical investigation of representative intrusions from the Songliao Block. Moreover, in this paper, we report new ages and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic data to constrain their petrogenesis and use this data to discuss their implications for crustal growth in NE China during the Phanerozoic.

2. Geological setting and petrology

NE China is divided by the Nenjiang (F1) and Mudanjiang (F2) Faults (Fig. 1a) into three microcontinental blocks (i.e., the Jiamusi Block in the east, Songliao Block in the centre and Xing'an Block in the northwest) [\(Ye et al., 1994\)](#page-13-0). The Jiamusi Block is mainly composed of two sequences of Precambrian metamorphic rocks: the Mashan and Heilongjiang Groups [\(Wu et al., 2003a,b](#page-13-0)). The Mashan Group, that has been metamorphosed at granulite facies conditions ([Wilde et al.,](#page-13-0) [2000\)](#page-13-0), comprises granulite, marble, graphitic schist, together with gneiss and garnet-bearing granite. By contrast, the Heilongjiang Group, exposed along the Mudanjiang Fault (F2) between the Jiamusi and Songliao Blocks (Fig.1a), is characterised by highly deformed blueschist facies rocks, including glaucophane schist, marble and chert ([Wu et al., 2003a,b](#page-13-0)). The Songliao Block consists of the Lesser Xing'an Range in the north, the Songliao sedimentary basin in the centre and the Zhangguangcai Range in the east (Fig. 1a). Voluminous Phanerozoic granitic rocks are widespread throughout the Block, intruding both mountainous regions ([JBGMR, 1988; IMBGMR, 1990;](#page-12-0) [HBGMR, 1993](#page-12-0)) and beneath the Songliao basins [\(Wu et al., 2001](#page-13-0)).

Furthermore, Proterozoic metamorphic rocks with banded iron formation (Dongfengshan Group) occur within the eastern Lesser Xing'an and northern Zhangguangcai Ranges ([HBGMR, 1993; Wu](#page-12-0) [et al., 2003a, b](#page-12-0)). The Xing'an Block is located within the Great Xing'an Range [\(Fig. 1](#page-1-0)a) where extensive Mesozoic volcanic and granitic rocks, as well as Proterozoic metamorphic rocks and Palaeozoic strata are exposed ([HBGMR, 1993; Wu et al., 2003a, b\)](#page-12-0).

Available age constraints suggest that the Phanerozoic granitic rocks in NE China were mainly formed during the Mesozoic, ranging from 230 to 120 Ma [\(Wu et al., 2000a,b; Zhang et al., 2002a,b;Wu et al., 2002](#page-13-0); Wu et al., 2003a,b, 2004b; [Guo et al., 2004a; Yang et al., 2004; Zhang et al.,](#page-12-0) [2004; Sun et al., 2005; Wu et al., 2005; Ge et al., 2005; Cheng et al., 2006;](#page-12-0) [Zhang et al., 2006; Wu et al., 2007a; Ge et al., 2007; Wu et al., 2008](#page-12-0)). Minor Palaeozoic granitic magmatism is mainly distributed in the Great Xing'an Range and the Jiamusi Block [\(HBGMR, 1993; Wu et al., 2000b,](#page-12-0) [2001, 2002; Ge et al., 2007\)](#page-12-0). At present, examples of Palaeozoic granitic rocks are lacking in the Songliao Block. In contrast to the voluminous granitic magmatism that is present in NE China, there are few reported occurrences of Phanerozoic mafic intrusions ([JBGMR, 1988; IMBGMR,](#page-12-0) [1990; HBGMR, 1993\)](#page-12-0).

The study area for our samples is located within the Songliao Block, south of the Dunmi Fault [\(Fig. 1](#page-1-0)a and b). Here granodiorite outcrops as a large batholith intruding Archaean strata, which was in turn intruded by Cenozoic mafic rocks, Mesozoic granitoids, and a small mafic intrusion of gabbro that is also the focus of this study [\(Fig. 1](#page-1-0)b). The studied granitic and mafic rocks are neither deformed nor metamorphosed.

The granodiorite consists of plagioclase (0.6–3.0 mm, 45–55%), Kfeldspar (0.5–2.5 mm, 10–15%), quartz (0.5–2.5 mm, 20–25%), biotite (0.5–2.0 mm, 10–15%) and minor hornblende (3–5%). Accessory phases include magnetite, titanite, apatite and zircon. The gabbro is intermediate-coarse grained and porphyritic, comprising phenocrysts of interstitial, anhedral or subhedral clinopyroxene (3.0–6.0 mm,13–14%), plagioclase

Table 1

Errors are 1σ; Common Pb was corrected using the method proposed by [Andersen \(2002\)](#page-12-0).

(3.0–5.0 mm, 18–20%), minor orthopyroxene lamellae (2.5–5.5 mm, 2– 3%) occurring along prismatic cleavage planes, and K-feldspar (2.5– 5.0 mm, 2–3%), in a matrix (60–65%) of clinopyroxene (0.05–0.1 mm, 18– 19%), orthopyroxene (0.05–0.1 mm, 5–6%), plagioclase (0.03~0.05 mm, 26–27%), K-feldspar (0.02–0.05 mm, 5–6%), minor biotite (0.04– 0.06 mm, 2–3%), and Ti–Fe oxides (e.g., magnetite) (0.03–0.05 mm, 3– 4%).

3. Analytical methods

3.1. Zircon LA-ICP-MS U–Pb dating

Zircon was separated, respectively, from one sample of granodiorite (SMZG-01) and one of gabbro (SMZM-01) using conventional heavy liquid and magnetic techniques at the Langfang Regional Geological Survey, Hebei Province, China. Representative grains were hand-picked under a binocular microscope, mounted in an epoxy resin disc, and then polished and coated with gold film. Zircons were documented with transmitted and reflected light as well as cathodoluminescence imagery to reveal their external and internal structures at the State Key Laboratory of Continental Dynamics, Northwest University, China. Laser ablation techniques were used for zircon age determinations [\(Table 1\)](#page-2-0). The analyses were completed with an Agilent 7500a ICP-MS, equipped with 193 nm excimer lasers, housed at the State Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources, China University of Geoscience in Wuhan, China. Zircon 91500 was used as a standard and NIST 610 was used to optimise the results. Spot diameter was 24 μm. Analytical methodology is described in detail in [Yuan et al.](#page-13-0) [\(2004\)](#page-13-0). Common-Pb corrections were made using the method of

[Andersen \(2002\)](#page-12-0). Data were processed using the GLITTER and ISOPLOT [\(Ludwig, 2003](#page-13-0)) programs. Errors on individual analyses by LA-ICP-MS are quoted at the 95% (1σ) confidence level.

3.2. Major and trace elemental analyses

Sixteen granitic samples and fourteen samples of gabbro were selected to carry out major and trace element determinations and Sr–Nd isotopic analysis. Whole-rock samples were trimmed to remove altered surfaces, and were cleaned with deionized water, crushed and powdered with an agate mill.

Major elements were analysed with a PANanalytical Axios-advance (Axios PW4400) X-ray fluorescence spectrometer (XRF) at the State Key Laboratory of Ore Deposit Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGCAS). Fused glass discs were used and the analytical precision, as determined on the Chinese National standard GSR-1 and GSR-3, was better than 5% (Table 2). Loss on ignition (LOI in Table 2) was obtained using 1 g of powder heated at 1100 °C for 1 h.

Trace element concentrations were determined with an ELAN 6000 ICP-MS at the Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, following procedures described by [Qi et al. \(2000\).](#page-13-0) The discrepancy between triplicate analyses is less than 5 % for all elements. Analyses of international standards OU-6 and GBPG-1 are in agreement with recommended values [\(Table 3](#page-4-0)).

3.3. Sr–Nd isotopic analyses

For Rb–Sr and Sm–Nd isotopic analysis, sample powders were spiked with mixed isotope tracers, dissolved in Teflon capsules with $HF+HNO₃$

Sample no.	Rock-type	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	MnO	P_2O_5	LOI	Total	Mg#	T_{Zr} (°C)
SMZG-01	Granodiorite	58.37	1.25	16.30	8.41	2.08	4.72	5.94	2.27	0.18	0.29	0.87	100.67	33	817
SMZG-03	Granodiorite	60.09	1.32	16.52	8.65	1.89	4.81	3.68	2.60	0.17	0.30	0.77	100.80	30	835
SMZG-07	Granodiorite	60.99	1.14	16.02	7.65	1.63	4.23	3.85	2.68	0.16	0.27	0.95	99.57	30	821
SMZG-08	Granodiorite	60.49	1.23	16.11	8.89	1.78	4.56	3.50	2.56	0.19	0.28	0.64	100.22	29	836
SMZG-10	Granodiorite	59.68	1.26	16.39	8.40	2.06	4.70	4.44	2.23	0.16	0.29	0.78	100.40	33	831
SMZG-11	Granodiorite	58.56	1.31	16.44	9.10	2.16	5.22	3.52	2.30	0.17	0.28	0.82	99.89	32	814
SMZG-12	Granodiorite	60.09	1.24	16.21	8.77	2.04	4.94	3.69	2.55	0.18	0.28	0.73	100.72	32	825
SMZG-13	Granodiorite	59.83	1.26	16.23	8.78	2.12	5.08	3.91	2.16	0.16	0.27	0.89	100.69	33	826
SMZG-15	Granodiorite	59.98	1.20	16.19	8.65	1.97	4.81	3.56	2.38	0.17	0.26	0.76	99.94	31	823
SMZG-16	Granodiorite	58.54	1.32	16.47	9.16	2.20	5.21	3.71	2.34	0.16	0.29	0.78	100.18	32	831
SMZG-17	Granodiorite	59.44	1.27	16.38	8.83	2.11	4.95	3.62	2.41	0.16	0.28	0.76	100.22	32	833
SMZG-18	Granodiorite	59.39	1.16	16.25	8.53	2.19	5.10	3.87	1.79	0.17	0.23	0.88	99.56	34	808
SMZG-19	Granodiorite	59.08	1.30	16.28	9.01	2.13	5.12	3.98	2.37	0.17	0.28	0.86	100.58	32	817
SMZG-21	Granodiorite	59.44	1.20	16.26	9.09	1.98	4.83	3.20	3.25	0.16	0.36	0.92	100.69	30	842
SMZG-24	Granodiorite	58.47	1.16	16.08	8.54	2.17	5.00	5.11	1.99	0.16	0.24	1.11	100.04	34	805
SMZG-28	Granodiorite	59.35	1.17	16.36	8.75	2.18	5.14	3.90	2.22	0.17	0.25	1.1	100.61	33	805
SMZM-01	Gabbro	53.41	1.41	16.64	11.29	3.39	6.81	2.61	1.95	0.18	0.21	1.90	99.81	38	
SMZM-02	Gabbro	52.58	1.48	18.04	11.27	3.08	7.79	2.80	1.78	0.19	0.37	1.19	100.57	35	
SMZM-05	Gabbro	52.23	1.44	17.79	11.29	3.24	7.54	2.68	1.69	0.19	0.32	1.43	99.83	36	
SMZM-06	Gabbro	53.38	1.35	17.64	10.57	3.17	7.51	2.60	1.99	0.18	0.29	2.19	100.87	37	
SMZM-08	Gabbro	54.61	1.29	16.17	11.67	3.67	6.32	2.15	2.01	0.18	0.24	1.32	99.63	39	
SMZM-09	Gabbro	53.45	1.38	16.85	11.17	3.36	6.77	2.80	1.97	0.16	0.20	1.90	100.02	38	
SMZM-10	Gabbro	52.13	1.13	17.75	10.85	3.73	7.45	2.72	2.15	0.18	0.15	1.56	99.81	41	
SMZM-11	Gabbro	54.17	1.45	17.06	11.46	3.48	6.91	2.59	1.65	0.18	0.21	1.77	100.93	38	
SMZM-12	Gabbro	52.82	1.30	17.16	11.32	3.44	6.98	2.53	2.16	0.18	0.23	2.26	100.39	38	
SMZM-13	Gabbro	54.24	1.41	17.08	11.42	3.49	6.92	2.64	1.91	0.17	0.22	1.41	100.90	38	
SMZM-15	Gabbro	52.29	1.35	16.07	11.54	3.92	7.27	3.98	1.87	0.19	0.16	1.62	100.27	40	
SMZM-17	Gabbro	51.46	1.44	17.85	11.44	3.35	7.81	3.19	1.60	0.20	0.34	1.26	99.94	37	
SMZM-18	Gabbro	52.56	1.41	18.18	11.06	2.92	7.36	3.17	1.61	0.19	0.36	1.71	100.54	35	
SMZM-20	Gabbro	54.50	1.19	17.15	10.39	3.16	6.66	3.95	1.95	0.18	0.18	1.38	100.68	38	
GSR-3	RV^*	44.64	2.37	13.83	13.4	7.77	8.81	3.38	2.32	0.17	0.95	2.24	99.88		
GSR-3	$MV*$	44.68	2.36	13.98	13.37	7.75	8.82	3.26	2.31	0.17	0.96	2.15	99.81		
GSR-1	RV^*	72.83	0.29	13.4	2.14	0.42	1.55	3.13	5.01	0.06	0.09	0.7	99.62		
GSR-1	$MV*$	72.76	0.29	13.43	2.16	0.43	1.57	3.16	5.02	0.06	0.1	0.71	99.69		

LOI=Loss on Ignition. RV*: recommended values; MV*: measured values; the values for GSR-1 from [Govindaraju \(1994\)](#page-12-0) and GSR-3 from [Wang et al. \(2003a\),b\)](#page-13-0). Mg# = 100*Mg/ $(Mg + \sum Fe)$ atomic ratio.

RV^{*}: recommended values; MV^{*}: measured values .The values for GBPG-1 from [Thompson](#page-13-0) et al. (2000), and for OU-6 from Potts and Kane [\(2005\)](#page-13-0).

The trace elements analysis results (ppm) for the studied granodiorites and gabbros.

Table 3

Chondrite Uniform Reservoir (CHUR) values (87 Rb/ 86 Sr $=0.0847, {}^{87}$ Sr/ 86 Sr $=0.7045, {}^{147}$ Sm/ 144 Nd $=0.1967$ 143 Nd/ 144 Nd $=0.512638$) are used for the calculation. $\lambda_{\rm Rb}=1.42\times10^{-11}$ year ${}^{-$ [\(Steiger and Jäger, 1977\)](#page-13-0); $\lambda_{\rm sm}=6.54\times10^{-12}$ year⁻¹ ([Lugmair and Harti, 1978\)](#page-13-0).

acids, and separated by conventional cation-exchange techniques. Isotopic measurements were performed on a Finnigan MAT-261 thermal ionization mass spectrometer (TIMS) at the State Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources, China University of Geosciences, China. Procedural blanks were <200 pg for Sm and Nd and <500 pg for Rb and Sr. The mass fractionation corrections for Sr and Nd isotopic ratios were based on ${}^{86}Sr/{}^{88}Sr= 0.1194$ and ${}^{146}Nd/$ 144 Nd = 0.7219, respectively. Analyses of standards during the period of analysis are as follows: NBS987 gave ${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr=0.710248±12$ (2 σ , $n=10$); La Jolla gave $143Nd/144Nd=0.511856\pm 10$ (2 σ , $n=10$). Our analytical results for Sr–Nd isotopes are presented in Table 4.

3.4. In situ zircon Hf isotopic analysis

In situ zircon Hf isotopic analyses were conducted using a Neptune MC-ICP-MS, equipped with a 193 nm laser, at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, China. During the analysis, a laser repetition rate of 10 Hz at 100 mJ was used as were spot sizes of 32 and 63 μm. Details of the analytical technique used are described in [Xu et al. \(2004\) and Wu et al. \(2006\).](#page-13-0) During the analysis, the 176 Hf/ 177 Hf and 176 Lu/ 177 Hf ratios of the standard zircon (91500) were 0.282300 \pm 15 (2 σ_n , $n=24$) and 0.00030, similar to the commonly accepted ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ratio of 0.282302 \pm 8 and 0.282306 \pm 8 (2 σ) measured using the solution method [\(Goolaerts et al., 2004; Woodhead](#page-12-0) [et al., 2004](#page-12-0)). The analytical results are listed in [Table 5](#page-6-0).

4. Results

4.1. Zircon cathodoluminescence images and U–Pb data

Zircon is relatively abundant in both the granodiorite (SMZG-01) and gabbro (SMZM-01) samples. Prior to LA-ICP-MS zircon U–Pb dating, the surfaces of the grain mounts were washed in dilute $HNO₃$ and pure alcohol to remove any potential lead contamination. Zircons selected from samples SMZG-01 and SMZM-01 are euhedral, colourless and transparent, mostly elongate-prismatic, and ranged up to 100 µm in diameter. The majority exhibit oscillatory or planar zoning under cathodoluminescence (CL), a typical feature of magmatic zircon. Selected zircon CL images are given in [Fig. 2.](#page-7-0) The studied zircons have variable abundances of Th (54–298 ppm) and U (119–684 ppm), with Th/U ratios of 0.3–0.7 [\(Table 1](#page-2-0)), also suggestive of a magmatic origin. On the basis of CL imagery and Th/U ratios, anigneous origin for the zircon is evident. The U–Pb zircon data are presented in [Table 1](#page-2-0). Analyses of zircon grains with oscillatory structures were concordant and yielded a weighted mean $^{206}Pb/^{238}U$ age of 262.8 \pm 1.0 Ma (n = 26) for SMZG-01 and 262.1 \pm 0.7 Ma (n=22) for SMZM-01 ([Fig. 2](#page-7-0)). The two ages are interpreted as the crystallisation ages of the granodiorite and gabbro.

4.2. Major and trace elements

Major element concentrations of the studied granitic intrusion and gabbro samples are listed in [Table 2](#page-3-0). These rocks span a wide range of $SiO₂$ content (51.5–61.0 wt.%), and with the exception of two samples (SMZG-01 and SMZM-15) define a subalkaline suite in the total alkali– silica (TAS) diagram [\(Fig. 3](#page-8-0)). The granodiorite samples have relatively high contents of $SiO₂$ (58.4–61.0 wt.%), Na₂O (3.20–5.94 wt.%) and K₂O (1.79–3.25 wt.%), low MgO (1.63–2.2 wt.%) contents and Mg# values (29–34), and a similar TiO₂ range (1.14–1.32 wt.%). The gabbro samples, in contrast, show a narrow compositional range in $SiO₂$ (51.5–54.6 wt.%) and are characterised by high Al_2O_3 (16.0–18.2 wt.%) and Na₂O (2.15– 3.98 wt.%), low MgO $(2.92-3.92 \text{ wt.})$ and TiO₂ $(1.13-1.48 \text{ wt.})$ contents, as well low Mg# values (35–41). Harker diagrams ([Fig. 4](#page-9-0)) show the variation in major elements as a function of $SiO₂$ -content in both the mafic and granitic rocks. With increasing silica content, $TiO₂$, Al_2O_3 , Fe₂O_{3T}, MgO, CaO and Na₂O decrease, while K₂O increases. P₂O₅ displays a different trend for granitic and mafic rocks with increasing of silica; i.e., there is negative correlation for the gabbro, while no Correlation is evident in the granodiorite (Fig. [4](#page-9-0)h). Trace element concentrations of the granodiorite and gabbro are listed in [Table 3.](#page-4-0) Selected elements are plotted against $SiO₂$ content in [Fig. 5](#page-10-0). Rubidium, Ba and Zr concentrations increase whereas Sr concentrations decrease with increasing SiO₂. All samples have moderate total rare earth element (REE) contents and the gabbro has a slightly wider range in total REE contents (113–174 ppm vs. 113–160 ppm for the granodiorite). Chondrite-normalised patterns for the granodiorite exhibit moderate enrichment of light REE (LREE; $(La/Yb)_N = 5.7–7.8$) and flat heavy REE (HREE; $(Gd/Yb)_N = 1.4–1.5$). Furthermore, the granitic rocks show weakly negative Eu anomalies (Eu/Eu $* = 0.74$ –0.86, [Table 3](#page-4-0)) ([Fig. 6a](#page-10-0)). The gabbro displays similar REE patterns to the granodiorite [\(Fig. 6](#page-10-0)b), though the gabbro have relatively larger variation of $(La/Yb)_N$ (5.9–9.3), $(Gd/Yb)_N$ (1.5–2.0) and Eu/Eu^{*} (0.70–0.95). The mafic intrusion is characterised by relatively higher Ga, Nb, Y, Sr, Ba and Sc contents and lower Rb, Zr, Hf, U, Th and Pb contents than the granodiorites, with the exception of sample SMZM-06 [\(Table 3\)](#page-4-0). On primitive mantle-normalised multi-element diagrams [\(Fig. 7](#page-10-0)), the granodiorite samples exhibit enrichment in Rb, Pb, Th and U and significant depletions in Ba, Nb, Ta, P and Ti [\(Fig. 7a](#page-10-0)). The gabbro exhibits similar behaviour but with negative Zr–Hf anomalies and without Ba anomalies ([Fig. 7](#page-10-0)b).

4.3. Sr–Nd isotopes

Strontium and Nd isotopic compositions of the representative samples of gabbro and granodiorite are presented in Table 4. The gabbro has relatively constant initial ${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr$ ratios (0.707 to 0.708), and negative $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values (-5.9 to -5.3). In contrast, the granodiorite

Zircon Hf isotopic compositions of the granodiorites and gabbros from NE China.

ε_{Hf}(t) = 10,000{[(¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf)_S – (¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁷Hf)_S* (e^{λt} – 1)]/[(¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf)_{S+}(e^{λt} – 1)]/[(¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf)_{S+}(e^{λt} – 1)]/[(¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf)_{S+}(¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁷Hf)_{S+}(¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁷Hf)_{S+}(e^{λt} – 1 Griffi[n et al. 2000\)](#page-12-0). $\lambda = 1.867 * 10^{-11}$ a⁻¹ ([Soderlund et al. 2004](#page-13-0)). (¹⁷⁶Lu/¹⁷⁷Hf)_C = 0.015, t = crystallisation age of zircon.

has distinctly different isotopic compositions, with lower $({}^{87}\text{Sr}){}^{86}\text{Sr})$ _i (0.700–0.705) and positive $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values (0.3–0.8). This suggests different source regions for the two rock groups. Furthermore, on the $({}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr)_{i}$ vs. $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ plot ([Fig. 8](#page-11-0)), granodiorite falls within the field given for Mesozoic granites from NE China ([Wu et al., 2000a, 2002,](#page-13-0) [2003a,b, 2005, 2007a\)](#page-13-0) [\(Fig. 8\)](#page-11-0).

4.4. Zircon Hf isotopes

Two samples of zircon dated by U–Pb methods were also analysed for their Lu–Hf isotopes on the same domains, and the results are listed in Table 5. Twenty-six spot analyses were obtained for the zircon sample SMZG-01, yielding variable $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of between -4.0 and $+2.5$ ([Fig. 9a](#page-11-0)), with two-stage model ages (T_{DM2}) of 1123– 1536 Ma, and giving initial 176Hf/177Hf ratios ranging from 0.282500 to 0.282684. Twenty-two spot analyses were made for sample SMZM-01. The determined negative $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values vary between -5.0 and -2.3 [\(Fig. 9](#page-11-0)b), corresponding to T_{DM2} model ages in the range from 1427 Ma to 1602 Ma. This sample (SMZM-01) has initial 176 Hf/ 177 Hf ratios varying between 0.282473 and 0.282552.

5. Discussion

5.1. Petrogenesis

5.1.1. Source regions

The studied gabbro has lower $SiO₂$ contents (51.5–54.6 wt.%) than liquids produced from partial melting of any of the crustal rocks present (i.e., granitoid liquids; [Rapp et al., 2003](#page-13-0)) (e.g., [Zhang et al., 1995; Kato](#page-13-0) [et al., 1997; Gao et al., 1998a,b](#page-13-0)), suggesting that they were derived from

Fig. 2. Representative cathodoluminescence images and LA-ICP-MS U–Pb concordia diagrams for zircon grains from the granitic and mafic samples (SMZG-01 and SMZM-01). The numbers correspond to the spot analyses given in [Table 1](#page-2-0).

a mantle—rather than a crustal source. The high initial ${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr$ ratios and negative $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ (−5.9 to −5.3) and zircon $\varepsilon_{Hf}(t)$ (−5.0 to −2.3) values [\(Tables 4 and 5](#page-5-0); [Figs. 8 and 9b](#page-11-0)) for the mafic rocks are consistent with derivation from an enriched lithospheric mantle source. By contrast, the granodiorite cannot have been produced by direct melting of mantle peridotite, as these scenarios would not produce melts more silicic than andesite or boninite $(-55 \text{ wt.} \% \text{ SiO}_2)$ [\(Baker et al. 1995\)](#page-12-0), which is contrary to observation $(58-61 \text{ wt. % } SiO₂, Table 2).$ $(58-61 \text{ wt. % } SiO₂, Table 2).$ $(58-61 \text{ wt. % } SiO₂, Table 2).$ The granodiorites are characterised by low $({}^{87}Sr)^{86}Sr)_{i}$ (0.700–0.705) and slightly positive $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values (0.3–0.8) ([Table 4](#page-5-0); [Fig. 8\)](#page-11-0), suggesting that they were derived from a source with a slightly depleted mantle characteristic. In addition, recent studies have shown that hafnium isotopic compositions of zircon can elucidate the nature of magma source(s) and the role of magma mixing processes in the generation of granitoid rocks (Griffi[n et al. 2002; Wang et al., 2003a,b; Kemp and](#page-12-0) [Hawkesworth, 2006; Yang et al. 2006](#page-12-0)). The determined $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values $(-4.0 \text{ to } 1.7)$ for granodiorite indicate that both depleted mantle and crustal sources contributed to the origin of these granitoid rocks ([Wu](#page-13-0) [et al., 2007b; Yang et al., 2007](#page-13-0)).

In order to estimate the proportions of mantle-to-crust component, a simple mixing model was employed, and the result of mixing calculation using Sr–Nd isotopic data is presented in [Fig. 8](#page-11-0). The plot [\(Fig. 8\)](#page-11-0) shows that the upper crustal component (UCC) has little or no role in the generation of the studied granodiorite; whereas mantle-

Fig. 3. Total alkali-silica (TAS) diagram for samples of granodiorite and gabbro in this study. All of the major element data have been recalculated to 100 % on a LOI-free basis (after [Middlemost, 1994; Le Maitre, 2002\)](#page-13-0).

derived basaltic magma and the lower crust (LCC) are the two major components. While [Fig. 8](#page-11-0) shows that the mantle component represents about 70–80%, this by no means indicates that the granodiorites were formed by mixing basaltic and lower crustal melts in such proportions. Rather, it suggests that the granitic magmas were produced by melting of a mixed lithology containing lower crustal material (e.g., gneiss, [Wu](#page-13-0) [et al., 2003b](#page-13-0)) that was intruded, or underplated, by a basaltic magma in such proportions (i.e., 70–80% for the latter).

5.1.2. Crustal assimilation

Both the gabbro and granodiorite display positive Pb and negative Ti anomalies in multi-element normalised spider diagrams [\(Fig. 7\)](#page-10-0), suggesting that continental material could have played a role in the magma genesis of these rocks. This is further supported inmuchlower Ta/La ratios $(0.02-0.03)$ than primitive mantle (i.e., Ta/La = 0.06: [Wood et al. 1979](#page-13-0)). Crustal contamination might cause significant depletion in Nb–Ta and highly enriched Sr–Nd isotopic signatures in basaltic rocks [\(Guo et al.,](#page-12-0) [2004b](#page-12-0)). The gabbro is characterised by negative Nb–Ta anomalies, high and constant initial ${}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr$ ratios and negative $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values [\(Table 4;](#page-5-0) [Fig. 8\)](#page-11-0), implying that crustal contamination might be significant in these rocks. However, crustal assimilation would induce, to a certain extent, variation in Sr–Nd isotopes, and also results in a positive correlation between Nd, MgO and $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values, and a negative correlation between MgO and $({}^{87}\mathrm{Sr} / {}^{86}\mathrm{Sr})_i$ ratios. These features, however, are not observed in the studied gabbro (not shown), which rules out significant assimilation– fractional crystallisation (AFC) processes during the late evolution of this mafic magma. Similarly, the granodiorite has low initial 87 Sr $/86$ Sr ratios (0.700–0.705), positive $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values (0.3–0.8) ([Table 4;](#page-5-0) [Fig. 8\)](#page-11-0) and variable zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values ranging from -4.0 to $+1.7$ [\(Table 5;](#page-6-0) [Fig. 9a](#page-11-0)), suggesting that crustal contamination was also insignificant. In summary, the geochemical (e.g., positive Pb) and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic signatures of the granitic and mafic rocks appear mainly to have been inherited from their sources (i.e., mixed crustal and enriched mantle sources).

5.1.3. Fractional crystallisation

The gabbro crystallized from a highly fractionated mafic magma as evidenced by low MgO (2.92–3.92 wt.%), Mg# (35–41) [\(Table 2](#page-3-0)) and compatible elements, such as Cr (10–68 ppm), Co (16–31 ppm) and Ni (5.7–33 ppm) contents ([Table 3](#page-4-0)). Moreover, there exist negative correlations between $SiO₂$ and $TiO₂$, $Al₂O₃$, $Fe₂O_{3T}$, MgO, CaO, Na₂O, P₂O₅ [\(Fig. 4a](#page-9-0)–f, h), Sr and Zr ([Fig. 5b](#page-10-0), d), suggesting olivine, clinopyroxene, hornblende, plagioclase, Ti-bearing phases (rutile, ilmenite, titanite, etc.), apatite and zircon fractionation. The separation of plagioclase, Ti–Fe oxides and apatite might account for the observed negative Eu, Nb, Ta, Ti and P anomalies in chondritenormalised REE patterns and primitive mantle-normalised trace element diagrams [\(Figs. 6b](#page-10-0), [7b](#page-10-0)). The gabbro, however, was derived from partial melting of a mafic mantle source without plagioclase as a residue ([Wu et al., 2005\)](#page-13-0), excluding the possibility of fractionation of plagioclase in the parental magma.

The studied granodiorite samples also have $SiO₂$ varying negatively with TiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , Fe_2O_{3T} , MgO, CaO, Na₂O, P₂O₅ ([Fig. 4a](#page-9-0)–f, h), Sr and Zr [\(Fig. 5](#page-10-0)b, d), trends which are considered to be related to fractionation of clinopyroxene, hornblende, plagioclase, Ti-bearing phases (rutile, ilmenite, titanite, etc.), apatite and zircon. Additionally, the granodiorite dataset exhibits slightly negative Ba anomalies [\(Fig. 7a](#page-10-0)), implying fractionation of K-feldspar. The calculated effects of fractional crystallisation are shown in mineral vector diagrams in [Fig. 10](#page-11-0)a and b. The granodiorite shows a combined vector of K-feldspar and plagioclase fractionation in [Fig. 10](#page-11-0)a and b, however, this also indicates that K-feldspar fractionation was more important than plagioclase in controlling Sr and Ba abundances.

The granodiorite exhibits decreasing Zr with increasing $SiO₂$ [\(Fig. 5](#page-10-0)d) indicating that zircon was saturated in the magma and was also controlled by fractional crystallisation ([Li et al., 2007; Zhong et al.,](#page-13-0) [2009\)](#page-13-0). Zircon saturation thermometry ([Watson and Harrison, 1983](#page-13-0)) provides a simple and robust means of estimating felsic magma temperatures from bulk-rock compositions. The calculated zircon saturation temperatures $(T_{Zr}^{\circ}C)$ of the granitic samples range between 805 and 836 °C [\(Table 2](#page-3-0)), which is suggested to be the minimum temperature; the crystallisation temperature of the magma could be higher.

5.1.4. Petrogenetic mechanism

For the genesis of Late Palaeozoic to Mesozoic granites in NE China, four possible tectonic scenarios have been hypothesized ([Wu et al.,](#page-13-0) [2003b](#page-13-0)): (1) a west-dipping subduction zone for the Palaeo-Pacific Ocean; (2) a SE-dipping subduction zone of the Mongolia–Okhotsk Ocean; (3) post-orogenic extensional collapse of the Central Asian orogenic belt; and (4) an anorogenic environment. Generally, granites formed in subduction zones show a roughly linear distribution, which is not the case in those of NE China. Hence, the first two subduction mechanisms are not favoured. Further, although these granites could have formed in an anorogenic setting associated with mantle plume activity, as was suggested by [Dobretsov and Vernikovsky \(2001\),](#page-12-0) this hypothesis is no longer thought to be a valid explanation due to the large range of emplacement ages and an absence of intense mafic magmatism, often found with anorogenic magmatism [\(Wu et al., 2003b\)](#page-13-0). In order to account for the huge volumes of granite in NE China, [Wu et al. \(2003b\)](#page-13-0) proposed that the areal distribution of granites may be related to post-orogenic extensional collapse of the Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB), which is called the Xingmeng (Xing'an-Mongolian) Orogenic belt in the Chinese literature. In other words, granitoid formation was related to massive underplating of mafic magma in an extensional tectonic setting. It is feasible to envisage, therefore, that the studied granodiorite formed in a similar tectonic environment. It has been suggested that the CAOB terminated orogeny during the Late Palaeozoic (~270 Ma), when collapse and crustal extension occurred [\(Zhao et al., 2008](#page-13-0)). Further support for an extensional environment for emplacement of the studied granodiorite is provided in the presence of coeval mafic intrusions in the study area. As the crust extended this, in turn, induced upwelling of hot asthenosphere, and it was the high heat flow from this asthenospheric mantle that triggered intense melting in the pre-existing enriched lithospheric mantle resulting in the production of basaltic parental magmas. Subsequent fractionation of the parental magmas resulted in the formation and emplacement of the gabbro under study. Meanwhile, the voluminous

Fig. 4. Chemical variation diagrams (a-h) for major oxides vs. SiO₂ content for the granodiorite and gabbro samples in this study. Sample legend as [Fig. 3](#page-8-0).

granitic magmas were generated by partial melting of pre-existing mixed sources (70–80% juvenile underplated basaltic magma and 20–30% Precambrian lower crust), heated by the upwelling of hot asthenosphere. Thus, we suggest a model in which lithosphere delamination coincided with the granitic and mafic magmatism [\(Fig. 11\)](#page-12-0).

5.2. Implications for growth of juvenile crust

Granite is the major component of the continental crust on Earth; hence the growth of the continental crust depends much on the mode of generation of granitoid rocks ([Wu et al., 2003b](#page-13-0)). Traditionally, growth of juvenile continental crust is considered to occur at two principal tectonic settings: subduction zones and mantle plumes. The former is most important for the upper continental crust and the latter perhaps, for the lower continental crust [\(Condie, 1997;](#page-12-0) cf. the Permian Emeishan large igneous province, SW China, [Zhong et al., 2009\)](#page-13-0). The widespread positive range of $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ from granites present in the CAOB suggests that newly formed mafic lower crust was important in the source region for these Phanerozoic granitoids. Furthermore, several workers have proposed that Phanerozoic crustal growth through

Fig. 5. Variation diagrams (a-d) of selected trace elements vs. $SiO₂$ for the granodiorite and gabbro samples in this study. Sample legend as [Fig. 3](#page-8-0).

mantle-derived underplating was significant in the CAOB and that the growth of the continental crust in this region occurred from Meso-Neoproterozoic to the Phanerozoic (e.g., [Chen et al., 2000; Wu et al.,](#page-12-0) [2000a, 2002, 2003b; Cheng et al., 2006; Ge et al., 2007\)](#page-12-0). Moreover, the samples from the Jiamusi Block, a Proterozoic microcontinent, have much older model ages of about 1600 Ma [\(Wu et al., 2000a](#page-13-0)). However, in the Songliao and Xing'an Blocks, most samples show model ages younger than 1000 Ma, clearly indicating a juvenile nature to the crust in this area. Accordingly, basaltic underplating can also be considered as important in the growth of the continental crust.

Fig. 6. Chondrite-normalised rare earth element (REE) patterns for the: a) granodiorite and b) gabbro samples in this study. Chondritic REE abundances are after [Sun and](#page-13-0) [McDonough \(1989\)](#page-13-0).

Fig. 7. Primitive mantle-normalised spider diagrams for the: a) granodiorite and b) gabbro samples in this study. Trace element abundances for primitive mantle are after [Sun and](#page-13-0) [McDonough \(1989\).](#page-13-0)

Fig. 8. $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ vs. $({}^{87}Sr)^{86}Sr)$ _i diagram for granodiorite and gabbro samples in this study from NE China. The numbers indicate the percentages of participation of the crustal materials. Sample legend as [Fig. 3.](#page-8-0) The field for Mesozoic granites in NE China and the Permian A-type granites from Great Xing'an Range, NE China are from [Wu et al. \(2000a,](#page-13-0) [2002, 2003a,b, 2005, 2007a\).](#page-13-0) The calculated parameters of Nd (ppm), $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$, Sr (ppm) and $({}^{87}Sr/{}^{86}Sr)_{i}$ are 1.2, +8, 20, and 0.703 from asthenospheric mantle (DM), 15, +8, 200, and 0.704 for basalt; 30, -12, 250, and 0.740 for upper continental crust (UCC); 20, -15, 230, 0.708 for lower continental crust (LCC). All data derive from [Wu et al. \(2000a\).](#page-13-0)

Fig. 9. Histograms of $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of zircon with ages of 262.8 Ma in: a) granodiorite (SMZG-01) and b) gabbro (SMZM-01) from the study area, NE China. $\varepsilon_{\rm Hf}(t)$ values for zircon were calculated using the crystallisation ages of the granitic and mafic rocks.

Fig. 10. Plots of Eu/Eu* vs.: a) Sr and b) Ba for the granodiorite samples. Mineral fractionation vectors were calculated using partition coefficients from [Philpotts and](#page-13-0) [Schnetzler \(1970\), Schnetzler and Philpotts \(1970\) and Bacon and Druitt \(1988\).](#page-13-0) Tick marks indicate percentage of mineral phase removed in 10% intervals; Pl—plagioclase, Kf—potassium feldspar.

The studied granodiorite samples have positive $\varepsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values with two-stage model ages ranging from 0.96 to 1.0 Ga, and many of the zircons from granodiorite sample SMZG-01 are characterised by positive $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of 0.4 to 2.5 with model T_{DM2} ages of between 1123 to 1257 Ma ([Table 5\)](#page-6-0). This data could suggest that significant crustal growth by mantle-derived basaltic underplating during Meso-Neoproterozoic times occurred beneath the Songliao Block.

6. Conclusions

Based on the geochronological, geochemical and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic studies herein, we draw the following conclusions:

- (1) LA-ICP-MS U–Pb zircon dating results indicate that the granodiorite intrusion and associated gabbro were intruded at 262.8 ± 1.0 Ma and 262.1 ± 0.7 Ma, respectively. These rocks all formed in a post-orogenic extensional setting.
- (2) The granitic rocks and mafic rocks resulted from different sources. The studied granodiorite was probably formed by partial melting of variably mixed sources containing newly underplated basaltic rocks (70–80%) and Precambrian lower crustal material (20–30%). This indicates a significant addition of juvenile crust under NE China during the Meso-Neoproterozoic, which is most characteristic of NE China. Subsequent fractionation of clinopyroxene, hornblende, K-feldspar, plagioclase, Ti-bearing phases (e.g., rutile, ilmenite, titanite), apatite and zircon resulted in the generation and emplacement of granodiorite magmas with negligible crustal contamination. Zircon saturation temperature of between 805 and 836 °C approximately represents the minimum temperature of the granodiorite magma.

(a) orogenic stage

(b) At Permian

Fig. 11. A petrogenetic-tectonic model for the studied granodiorite and gabbro intrusions. (a) The lithosphere was thickened during the Xingmeng orogenic stage; (b) post-orogenic extensional collapse of orogenic belt, via delamination of the thickened lithospheric mantle, induced upwelling of hot asthenosphere and intense melting of the pre-existing enriched lithospheric mantle and crust (mixed sources), producing parental basaltic and granitic magmas. Subsequently, highly fractionated gabbro and granodiorite were originated by fractional crystallisation.

(3) Gabbro associated with the granodiorite was derived from partial melting of an enriched mantle source related to lithospheric delamination. The parental magma to this also experienced extensive fractionation of olivine, clinopyroxene, hornblende, K-feldspar, Ti-bearing phases (e.g., rutile, ilmenite, titanite), apatite and zircon. Minor, but unimportant, crustal contamination occurred during magma ascent and emplacement.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Nelson Eby, Qiang Wang and one anonymous reviewer for their constructive reviews on an earlier version of this manuscript. We also thank Ruud Koole for quick editorial handling of the manuscript. This research was supported by the National Nature Science Foundation of China (40673029, 40773020, 90714010, 40634020 and 40521001). We are grateful to Dr. Lian Zhou and Jinhui Yang for help with the Sr, Nd and zircon Hf isotopic analysis, and Yongsheng Liu and Zhao-Chu Hu are thanked for help with LA-ICP-MS zircon U–Pb dating. The authors also thank Hu-jun Gong for helping with CL image handling.

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