The Architecture A1 Project

In search of an (?elusive) lithosphere-scale suture at Mt Isa

Frank Bierlein, Lance Black, Peter Betts

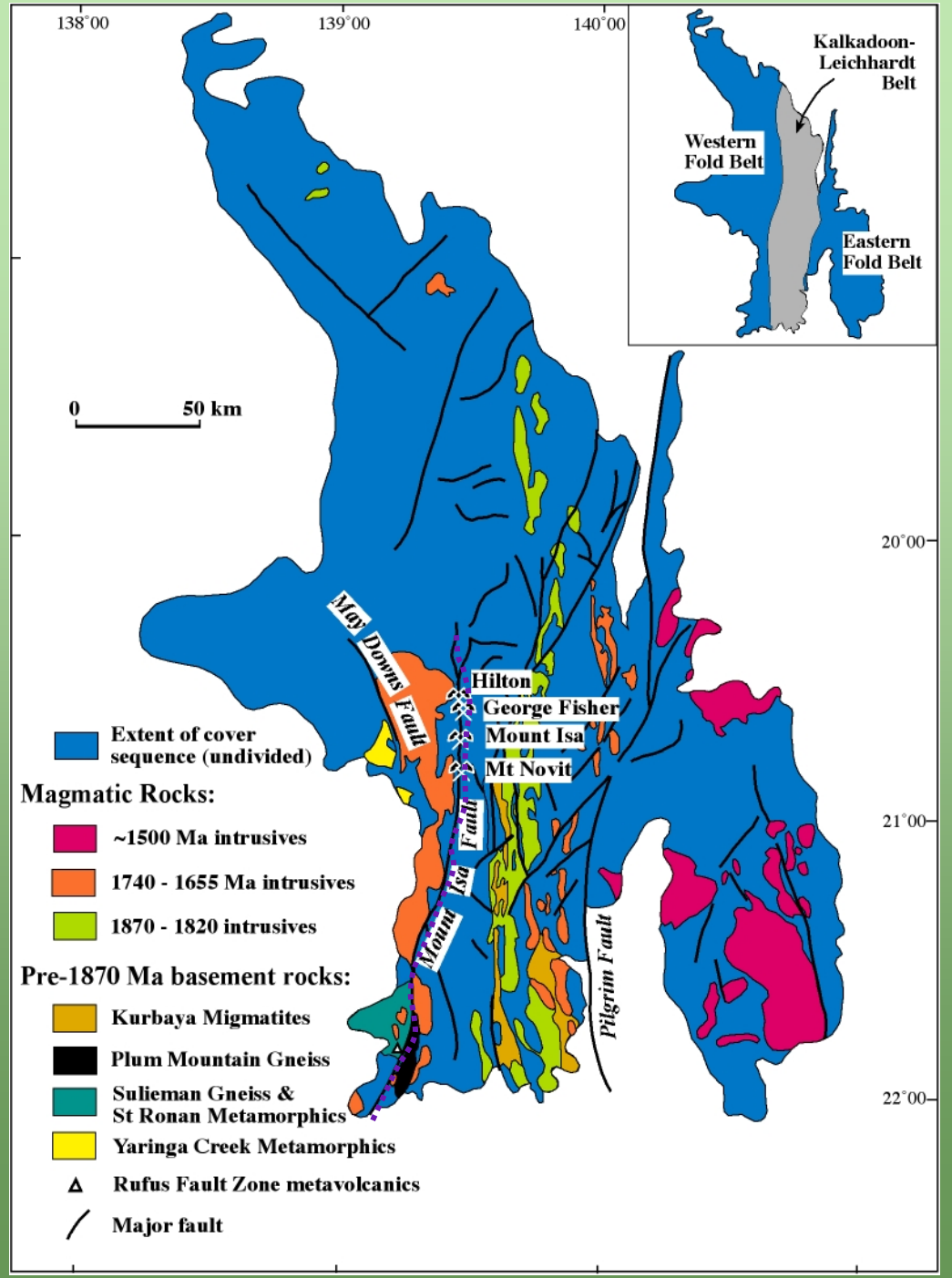
Mount Isa Mineral System Forum; Townsville, December 13 - 15, 2004

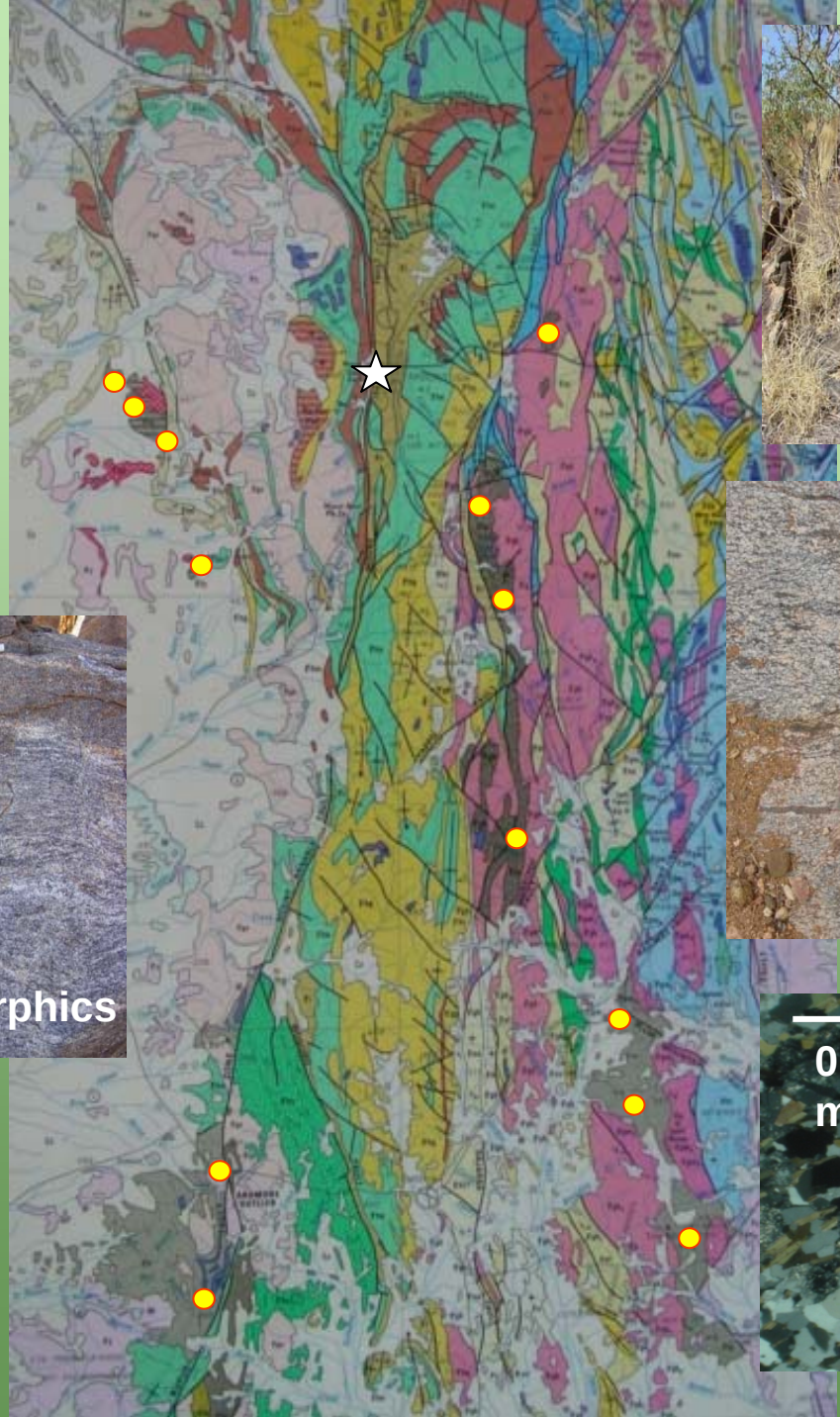
MIFZ basement study

Does MIFZ demarcate boundary between two distinct lithospheric blocks?

Fingerprint pre-Barramundi Orogeny basement rocks from E and W of Mt Isa Fault

(whole-rock geochemistry; Sm-Nd isotope systematics; forward modelling)

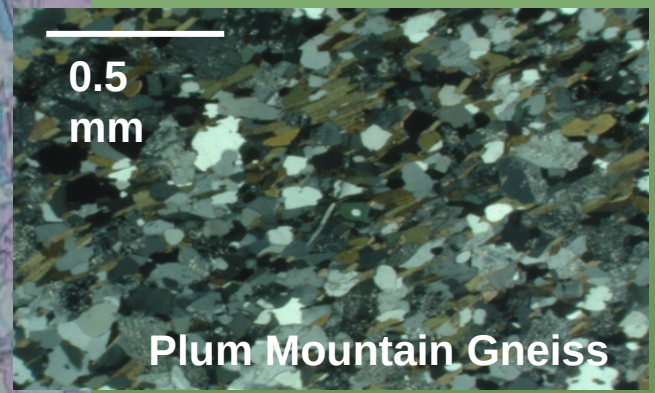





Kurbaya Migmatites

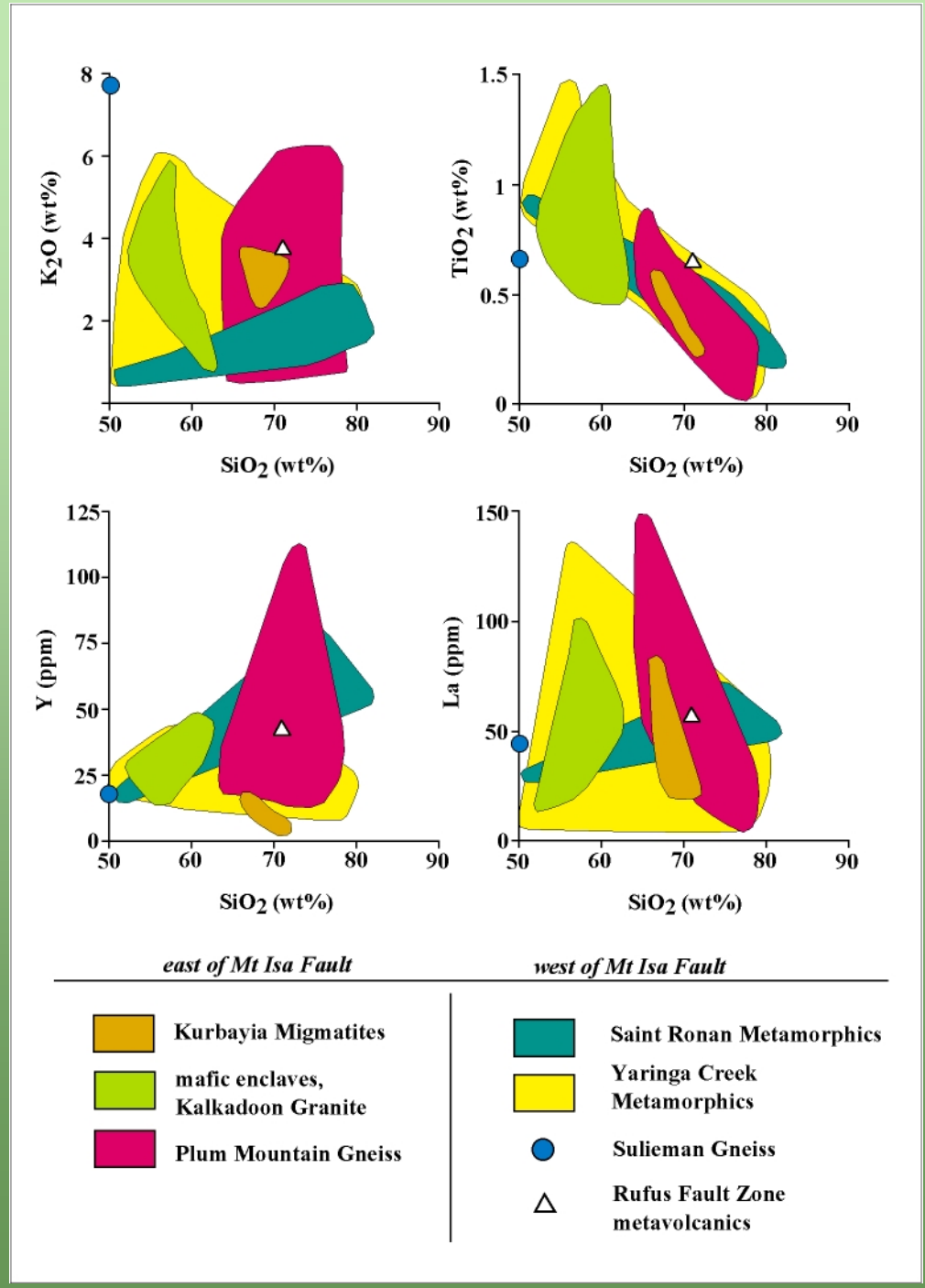

Kalkadoon Granite mafic enclave

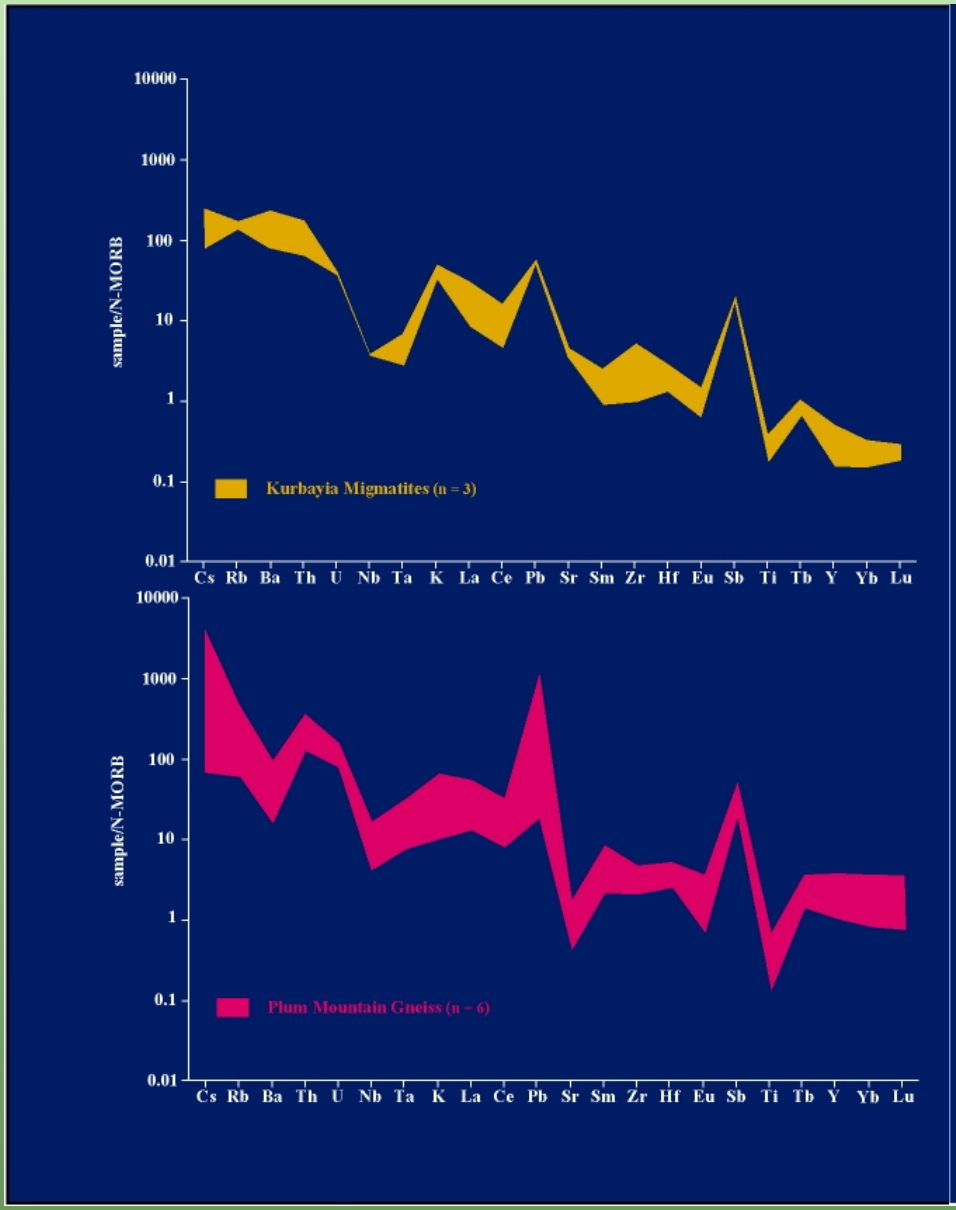

Yaringa Creek Metamorphics



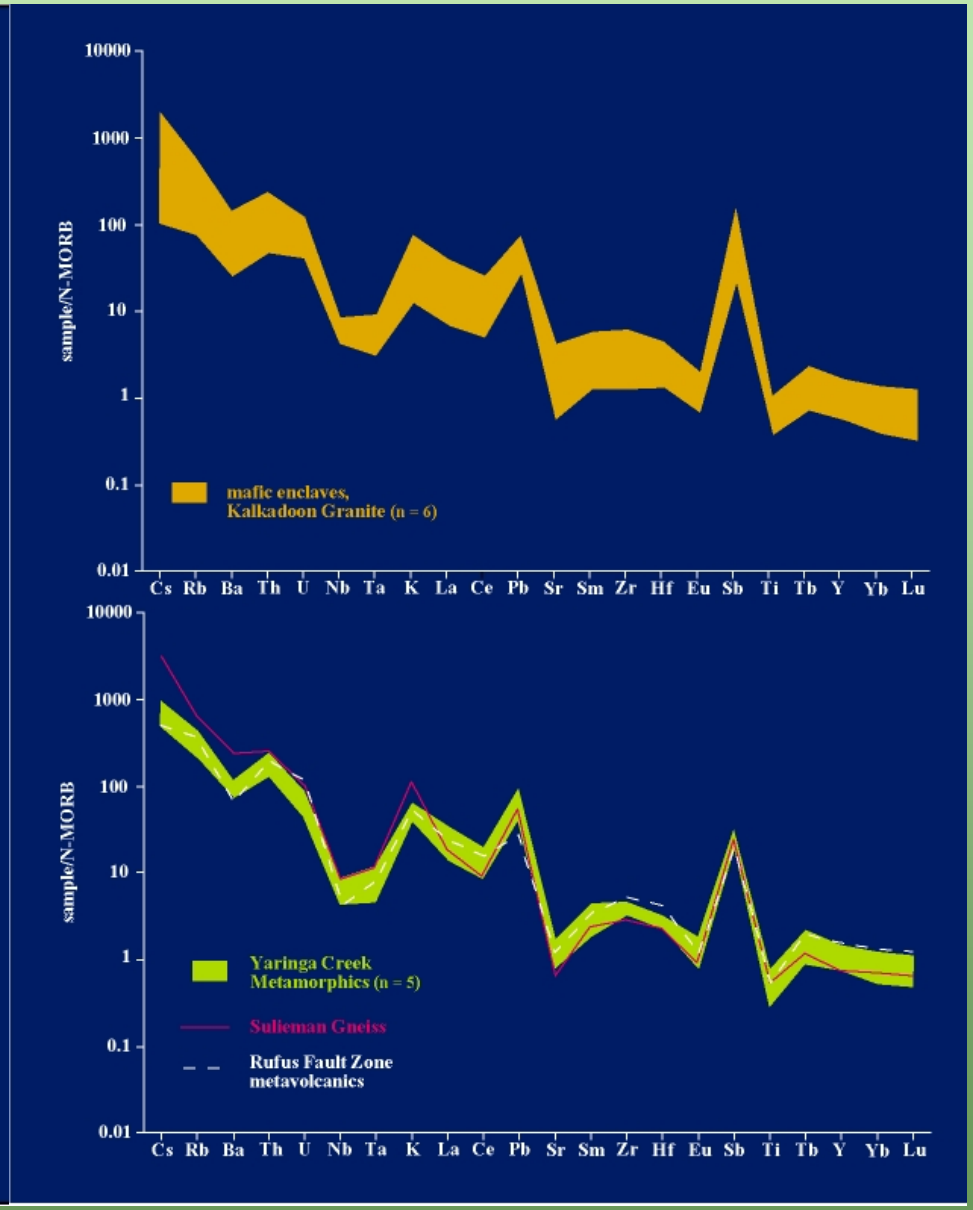
Plum Mountain Gneiss

(includes data from OzChem db)

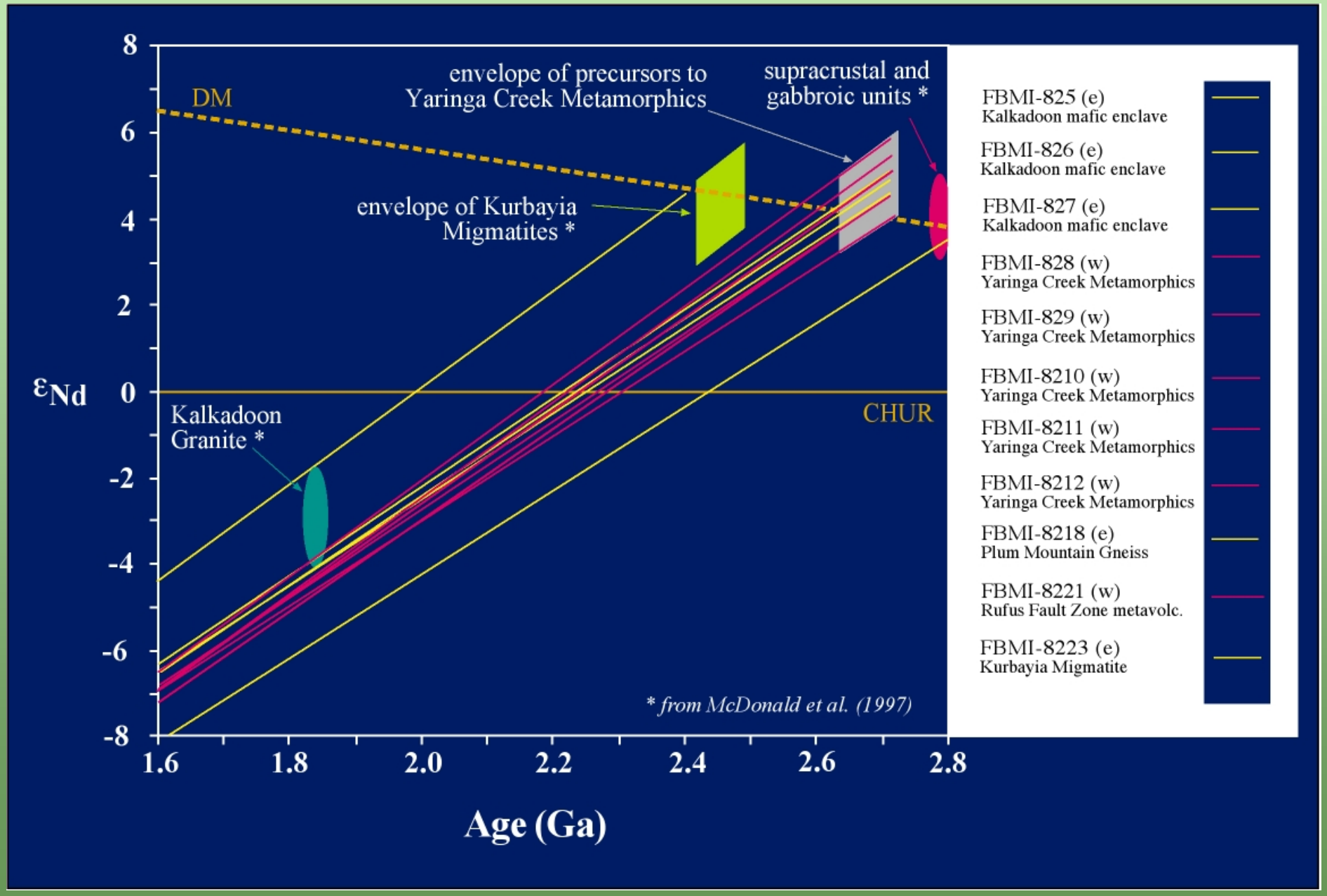


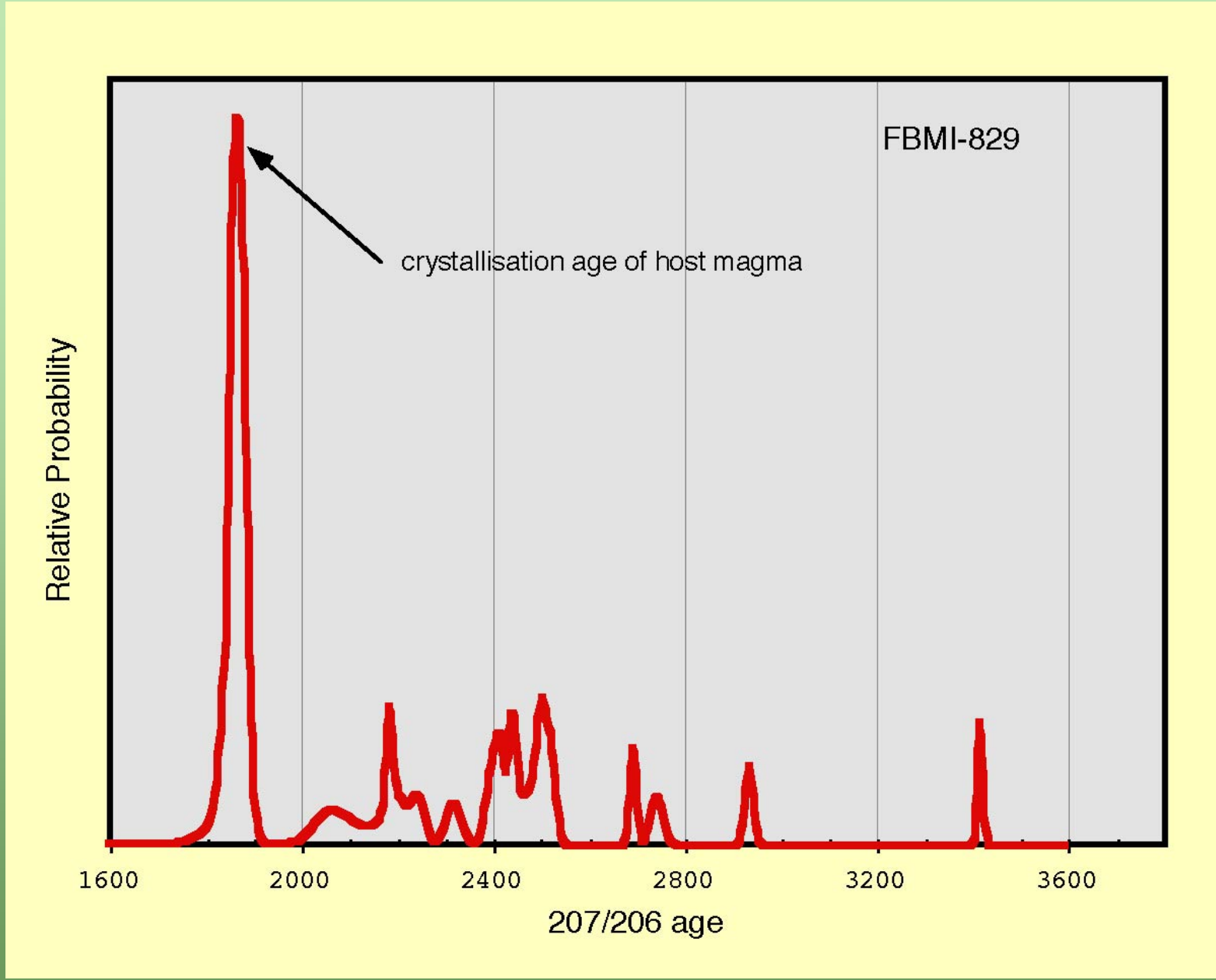


East of Mt Isa Fault

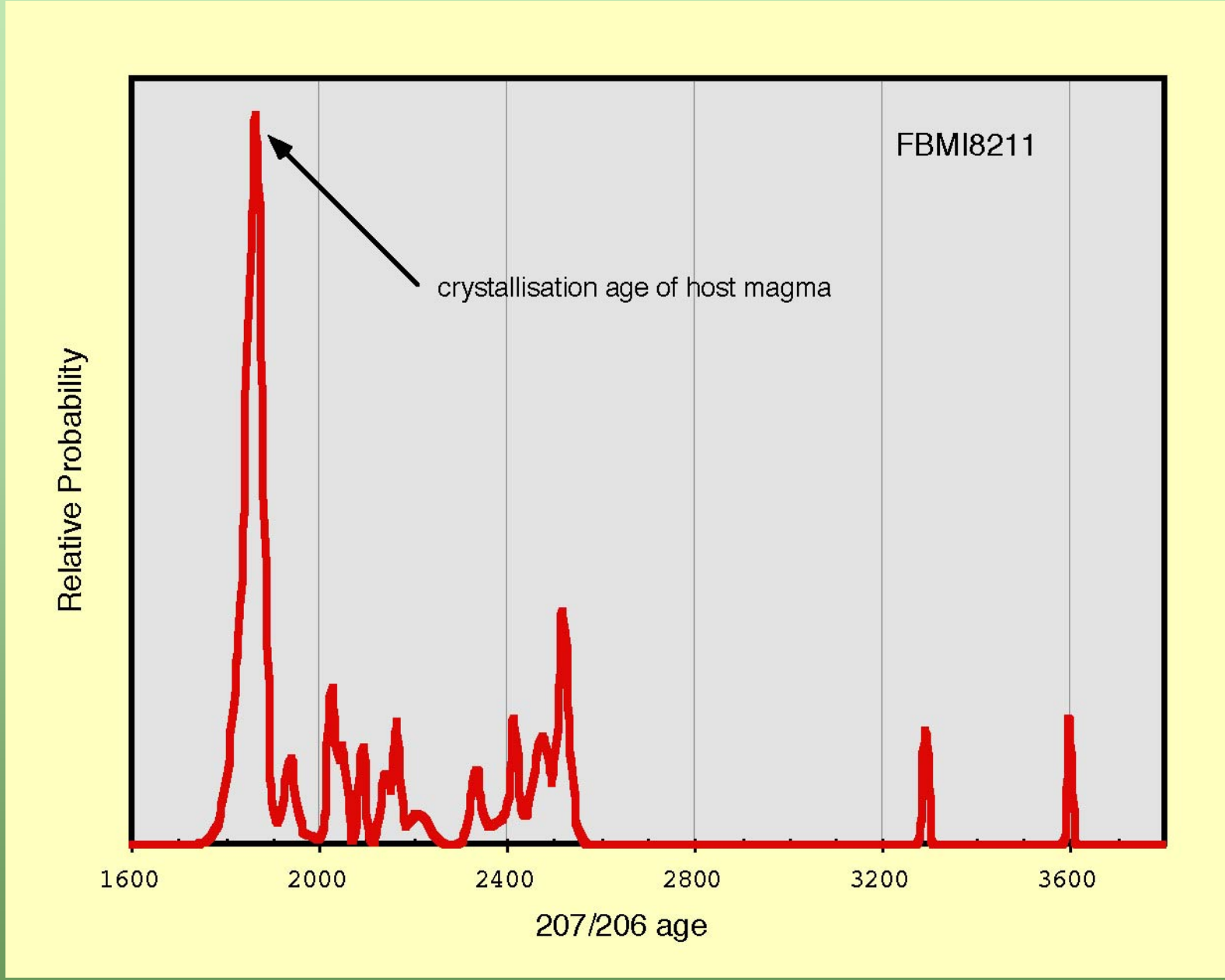


West of Mt Isa Fault

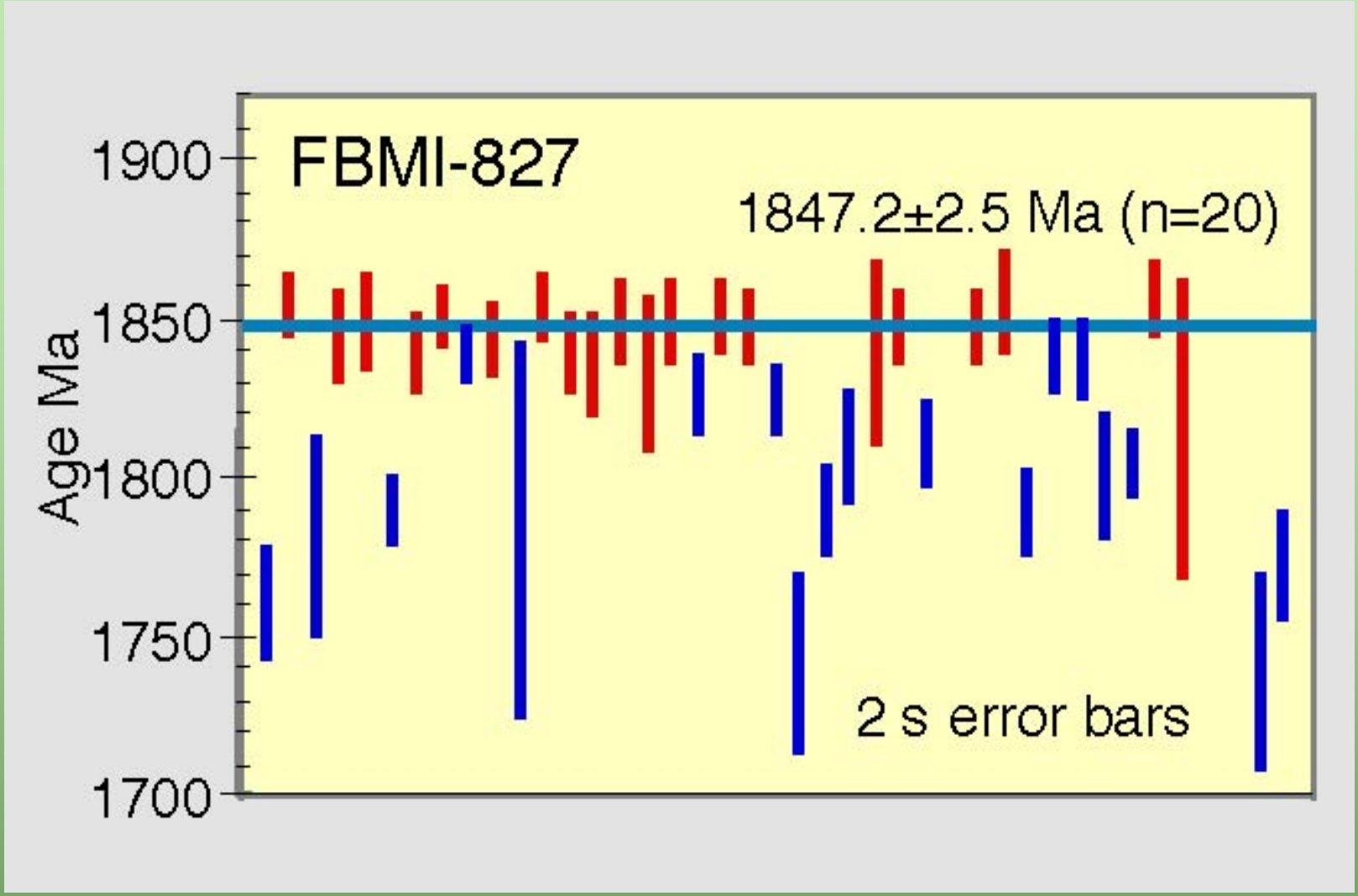

8
6
4
2
0
-2
-4
-6
-8
εNd
1.6
1.8
2.0
2.2
2.4
2.6
2.8
Age (Ga)
DM
envelope of precursors to Yaringa Creek Metamorphics
supracrustal and gabbroic units *
envelope of Kurbayia Migmatites *
Kalkadoon Granite *
CHUR
* from McDonald et al. (1997)
FBMI-825 (e) Kalkadoon mafic enclave
FBMI-826 (e) Kalkadoon mafic enclave
FBMI-827 (e) Kalkadoon mafic enclave
FBMI-828 (w) Yaringa Creek Metamorphics
FBMI-829 (w) Yaringa Creek Metamorphics
FBMI-8210 (w) Yaringa Creek Metamorphics
FBMI-8211 (w) Yaringa Creek Metamorphics
FBMI-8212 (w) Yaringa Creek Metamorphics
FBMI-8218 (e) Plum Mountain Gneiss
FBMI-8221 (w) Rufus Fault Zone metavolc.
FBMI-8223 (e) Kurbayia Migmatite



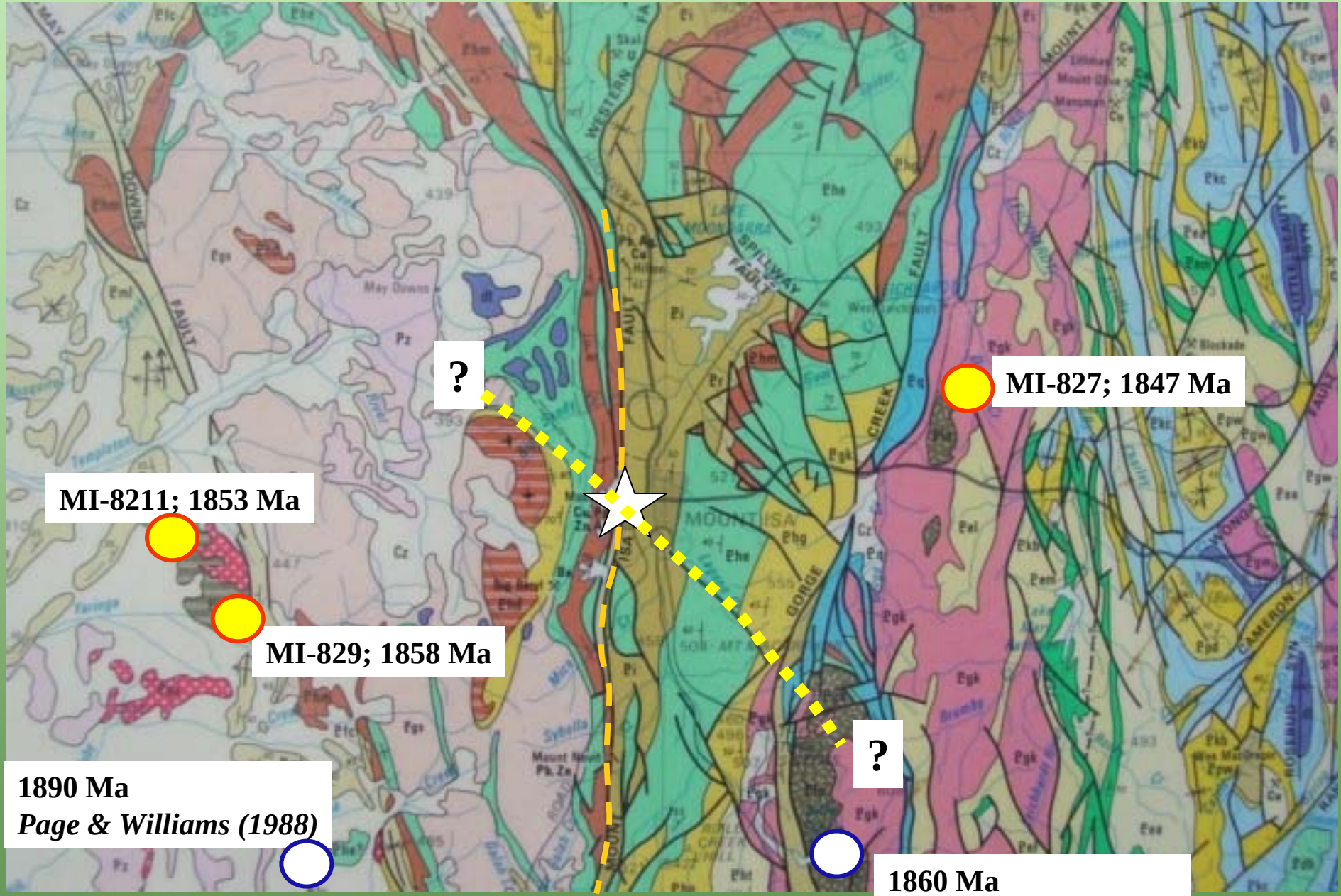
Yaringa Metamorphics (west of Mt Isa Fault); 1858 ± 4 Ma (n = 17)



Yaringa Metamorphics (west of Mt Isa Fault); 1853 ± 5 Ma (n = 17)



Mafic enclave in Kalkadoon Granite, NE of Mt Isa


?
MI-827; 1847 Ma
MI-8211; 1853 Ma
MI-829; 1858 Ma
?
1890 Ma
Page & Williams (1988)
1860 Ma
McDonald et al. (1997)

Proposed future work to test hypothesis:

- SHRIMP U-Pb of zircons from +1.8 Ga basement rocks NE of Lagoon Creek Fault
- (targeted) field mapping & geophysical constraints
- Lu-Hf (whole-rock & in-situ LA of zircons) to resolve mantle evolution + crustal contamination
- Integration with basement studies in Eastern Succession and KLB (G.M.)