### Sensitive High Resolution Ion MicroProbe



#### Geochronology





Palaeoclimatology



Nuclear monitoring





Geothermometry



Archaeology





### Many things we need to analyse are very small



Zircon crystals for dating rocks



Microfossils for climate studies





### Many things we need to analyse are complex



A billion years of growth history in a single zircon crystal



#### Pb, Cu and Fe sulfides in high grade ore





### SHRIMP analyses isotopes on a 0.01 mm scale







### The sample is bombarded by 10,000 volt ions







### SHRIMP analyses the ejected atoms







### SHRIMP is big to separate atoms from molecules







### Cameca IMS 1280 is big for the same reason







### Surface analysis: 0.00000002 g of sample







### Laser dating penetrates deeply into the grain







### Wide range of solid samples possible



Polished thin sections





Archaeological material

Separated minerals Blocks of rock



**Microfossils** 





### Analysis is manual or fully automatic







### Spot photos are stored with the analyses







### Wide range of applications

- Geochronology
- Isotope anomalies
- Trace elements
- Stable isotopes
- Two case studies
  - Sea surface temperatures in the Early Palaeozoic
  - 'Keyhole' geochronology of the Polish basement





### Wide range of applications - geochronology

Accurate mineral ages of igneous rocks

Zircon, monazite, apatite, titanite, baddeleyite, rutile, allanite, perovskite







### Wide range of applications - geochronology



#### Magma sources from inherited zircon cores







### Wide range of applications - geochronology

Metamorphic ages from zircon overgrowths, monazite and titanite









### Wide range of applications - geochronology







### Wide range of applications - geochronology

#### Survey radiogenic mineral Pb isotope dates in 5 seconds







### Wide range of applications - geochronology

Deposition and fluid flow ages from phosphate overgrowths

Monazite, xenotime







### Wide range of applications - cosmochemistry

#### Isotope anomalies in star dust from meteorites









### Wide range of applications - nuclear safeguards

#### U-Pu isotopic analysis of wind-blown radioactive dust particles











### Wide range of applications - trace elements

1000 Zircon 100 Cores **Eclogitic rim** Zircon/chondrite **REE** in protolith 10 zircon cores and metamorphic 1 overgrowths 0.1 0.01 Nd Sm\_ Gd\_ Dy Ce Pr Fυ





### Wide range of applications - thermometry

Temperatures of igneous and metamorphic events from titanium thermometry in zircon







### Wide range of applications - depth profiling







600

### Wide range of applications - isotopic imaging

Imaging of isotope abundances at ppm levels (5 µm spot) by sample rastering







### Wide range of applications - stable isotopes

#### Sulfur isotopes in massive sulfide deposits and diamond inclusions









### Wide range of applications - stable isotopes

Magma genesis from oxygen isotopes in zircon inherited cores and igneous rims







### Wide range of applications - biogenic minerals

Antelope tooth

#### Tooth enamel oxygen from animals and early humans records changes in diet and environment







### Wide range of applications – biogenic minerals

Oxygen from otoliths (fish ear bones) records changes in water temperature and salinity









### **Conodont Palaeothermometry**

with Julie Trotter

The Australian National University and The University of Western Australia





465 million years ago, in the mid Ordovician, biodiversity exploded 20 million years later, in a great extinction event, it collapsed

Was this caused by climate change?







The oxygen isotope compositions of some fossils record the temperature of the water the animal lived in









Sea surface temperatures inferred from conventional oxygen isotope analyses of sea shells seem crazy









Conodonts are phosphate microfossils from the mouths of marine animals that survived the Ordovician extinction









#### Water temperature (°C) Water temperatures measured 50 70 60 40 30 20 on conodonts by SHRIMP are SHRIMP analyses much more realistic 🔿 Canadian Conodonts 450 Australian Conodonts Conventional analyses Brachiopods (Shields et al., 2003) Age (Ma) 460 470 480 -10 -9 -8 -5 -3 -2 -6 -4 δ<sup>18</sup>O (‰ PDB) 0.5 mm





Marine animals flourished once the ocean cooled to modern temperatures, then most died out with the onset of widespread glaciation





Trotter et al. (2008) Science, 321, 550-554





# Keyhole' geochronology of the basement of NE Poland with The PGI Group Polish Geological Institute, Warsaw





## The basement rocks of northern Poland are covered by thick sediments of the East European Platform







Tectonic models predict that Svecofennian basement rocks might extend below the Platform as far south as the Trans-European Suture Zone







Trends in basement magnetic anomalies also suggest that the Svecofennian might extend as far south as central Poland







#### Extensive drilling provides valuable samples of the basement through 'keyholes' in the sediments









#### The Mazowsze Domain is Svecofennian metasediment with 1.84-1.80 Ga igneous intrusions







Suture N

300

The 1.52–1.50 Ga anorthosite-charnockitegranite Mazury Complex extends under the Baltic Sea









A belt of ~345 Ma alkaline intrusions marks an Early Carboniferous deep crustal discontinuity









### Now PGI has its own SHRIMP. A whole new world of opportunities awaits.





