decoupling between the Kaapvaal crust and its present mantle root. It follows that Archean crust can couple to Archean mantle at more than one time before the birth of the tectosphere.

Our data place a maximum age of 3.09 Ga on the time of crust-root coupling, given that this is the last recognized time of voluminous granite magmatism in the Vredefort section. Magmatic intraplate and/or impact related effects at the crust-mantle boundary have caused local granulite-facies metamorphism at 2.7, 2.0, and 1.0 Ga (24, 25), but these thermal events in the Mesoarchean crust as a whole have been minor relative to the events at ~3.1 Ga. The presence of Neoarchean dolerite dykes (16) also argues against elevated (~400°C) crustal temperatures at this time. A lower limit of 3.07 Ga for tectosphere birth is derived from the age of basal volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the Witwatersrand Basin, part of a passive continental margin sequence deposited on the stabilized crystalline crust (1, 7). On the basis of these upper and lower age limits, we place the age of permanent crust-mantle coupling (tectosphere initiation) beneath the central Kaapvaal crust at 3.08 ± 0.01 Ga.

Given our 3.08 Ga age for Kaapvaal tectosphere birth, there is a ~120 million year gap between the 3.2 Ga assembly of the Mesoarchean crust of the craton (7) and its coupling to the mantle root. This indicates an allochthonous relation between the crust and mantle root, consistent with continental genesis models that portray crust and mantle lithosphere as components generated in different tectonic settings before unification (e.g., 3, 5). A model of root formation by accretion of oceanic lithosphere plates (5) is supported by recent Re-Os dating that reports about 3 Ga eclogitized oceanic crust beneath much of the craton (26). Moreover, the discovery of 2.86 ± 0.06 Ga sulphide inclusions in eclogitic diamonds beneath the center of the craton indicates root thickening to >150 km (the approximate depth to diamond stability field) by this time (27). Thus, the construction of the tectosphere took place within roughly 0.2 Gyr of tectosphere initiation.

Our integrated mapping and high-precision geochronology of the deep Kaapvaal crust demonstrates that tectosphere birth can post-date the age of its crust and mantle components by several hundred million years, with crust assembly preceding subduction-driven mantle root construction by at least 0.12 Ga. A similar rate and process of tectosphere genesis later in the Archean can be inferred from limited data for 2 of the 10 other tectosphere fragments; namely the Superior craton of North America (22, 28) and the Siberian craton (29). Further lower crust and mantle root geochronology will test whether indeed all such ancient continental plates were created equally.

### References and Notes


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### Sound Velocities in Iron to 110 Gigapascals

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The dispersion of longitudinal acoustic phonons was measured by inelastic x-ray scattering in the hexagonal closed-packed (hcp) structure of iron from 19 to 110 gigapascals. Phonon dispersion curves were recorded on polycrystalline iron compressed in a diamond anvil cell, revealing an increase of the longitudinal wave velocity (Vl) from 7000 to 8800 meters per second. We show that hcp iron follows a Birch law for Vl, which is used to extrapolate velocities to inner core conditions. Extrapolated longitudinal acoustic wave velocities compared with seismic data suggest an inner core that is 4 to 5% lighter than hcp iron.

The knowledge of the elastic constants of the phases of iron, which makes up 70 to 90 weight % of planetary cores, is essential for comparison with global velocity models of Earth. The hcp (or ε) high-pressure phase of iron is stable to at least 300 GPa at ambient temperature (J). Elastic properties of hcp iron have been determined to 210 GPa by x-ray diffraction (XRD) lattice strains measurements (2, 3), but these results show discrepancies with calculations using first-principles methods (4-7), as well as with a recent experimental investigation to 42 GPa by nuclear resonant inelastic x-ray scattering (NRIXS) of synchrotron radiation (8). The most recent investigation with NRIXS (9), however, yielded results consistent with lattice strain measurements (3). Elastic properties of hcp iron determined by Raman spectroscopy to 156 GPa yielded a C44 elastic modulus that is lower than previous determinations (10). Inconsistencies among these studies might be partly attributed to the fact that none of these techniques directly measures the acoustic wave velocities of iron. This limitation can be overcome by inelastic x-ray scattering (IXS) with meV energy resolution, where the acoustic velocity can be directly derived from the dispersion of the acoustic phonon energy (11, 12).

Our IXS experiment was carried out at the inelastic scattering beamline ID28 at the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility.

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A typical IXS spectrum and its corresponding fits are shown as a function of transfer energy in Fig. 1. The peak centered at zero-energy transfer corresponds to the elastic contribution to the signal, whereas two other peaks are visible at higher energy transfer. The knowledge of the phonon dispersion curves of iron (16) and diamond (17) at ambient pressure allows an unambiguous assignment of these features. The inelastic signal at high-energy transfer (i.e., high acoustic wave velocity) corresponds to the transverse acoustic (TA) phonon branch of the diamond anvils, whereas the remaining peak is attributed to the longitudinal acoustic (LA) phonon of iron. These inelastic contributions shift toward higher energies with increasing Q values (Fig. 2), so that the inelastic contribution from diamond moves out of the energy transfer window at Q > 4 nm\(^{-1}\). At 8.31 and 10.46 nm\(^{-1}\), an additional feature is visible between the quasi-elastic line and the LA phonon of iron. Wave velocities derived from the energy position of these excitations suggest that they correspond to the TA phonon of iron. The TA phonons, however, were not detected at two momentum transfers and at two pressures only, precluding any further attempt to derive the pressure dependence of the shear velocities of iron. At variance, the LA phonon branch is observed over the entire momentum and pressure range explored.

Table 1. Acoustic sound velocities of hcp and bcc iron at 298 K and high pressures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(P) (GPa)</th>
<th>(V_p) (km s(^{-1}))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>5.91 ± 0.06*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 ± 0.1</td>
<td>6.30 ± 0.06*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 ± 0.3</td>
<td>7.06 ± 0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 ± 0.5</td>
<td>7.36 ± 0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 ± 0.9</td>
<td>7.80 ± 0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 ± 1.2</td>
<td>8.03 ± 0.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64 ± 1.5</td>
<td>8.22 ± 0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110 ± 2</td>
<td>8.80 ± 0.44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Recorded on the bcc phase of iron.

The LA wave velocity \(V_p\) was determined at each pressure by fitting the dispersion curve with a sine function

\[
E\ [\text{meV}] = 4.192 \times 10^4 \times V_p\ [\text{m/s}] \times Q_{\text{MAX}}\ [\text{nm}^{-1}] \times \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{Q}{Q_{\text{MAX}}\ [\text{nm}^{-1}]} \right]
\]

from which \(V_p\) as well as the position of the edge of the first Brillouin zone, \(Q_{\text{MAX}}\), can be derived (Fig. 3). Data recorded at four to five momentum transfers have been used in each dispersion curve to constrain \(V_p\) within an estimated error of 3%, with the exception of the data point at 110 GPa, for which only two momentum transfer data points could be used. The observed values of \(Q_{\text{MAX}}\) are in agreement with those calculated after (1). At 110 GPa, the acoustic wave velocity was determined with a fixed \(Q_{\text{MAX}}\) calculated after (1). LA wave velocities as a function of

---

**Fig. 1.** IXS spectra of hcp iron at 28 GPa and the Q value of 4 nm\(^{-1}\). The experimental data (open circles) are plotted along with corresponding fits. The energy positions and the widths of the excitations were fitted by using a Lorentzian model function convoluted with the experimentally determined energy resolution function by standard \(\chi^2\) minimization. Dashed lines represent the inelastic contributions of the LA phonon branch for iron and from a TA branch of the diamond anvil. The thin solid line represents the elastic contribution and the thick continuous line shows the summation of individual contributions. Error bars indicate the estimated SD of the photon-counting process.

**Fig. 2.** Dispersion of the iron LA phonon with increasing Q values (in nm\(^{-1}\)). LA phonons of iron are indicated by ticks. A TA mode detected at Q = 8.31 nm\(^{-1}\) and at Q = 10.46 nm\(^{-1}\) is indicated by broken ticks. Data are normalized to the intensity of the first LA phonon peak. The integration time for each point was of the order of 600 to 700 s, obtained by a summation of four to six scans in the range of 0 to 50 meV. The energy position of the phonons could be determined with a relative error of typically 3%. Error bars indicate the estimated SD of the photon-counting process. a.u., arbitrary units.
pressure are summarized in Table 1. Our results for the low-pressure bcc structure agree with the ultrasonic data collected to 1 GPa (18) and extrapolated to 10 GPa within 1%, thus attesting to the reliability of these measurements (19).

Our results for the high-pressure hcp structure of iron (Fig. 4) compared with shock wave measurements (20) show that hcp iron follows a Birch law (21) for $V_p$, which provides a convenient relation for extrapolating our measurements to higher pressures. Seismic data (22) do not fit the experimental extrapolation, suggesting that Earth’s inner core is slightly lighter than hcp iron, as proposed in earlier work (1, 23). The density differences are 4 to 5%.

Our measurements are consistent with the ultrasonic data (3), the XRD measurements (3), and the NRIXS data (9) below 100 GPa (Fig. 5). Above 100 GPa, however, our extrapolation departs from these measurements, yielding lower acoustic velocities than those derived from XRD (3) and NRIXS experiments (9). In the same manner, one observes a substantial discrepancy with results from theoretical calculations (4–7) at pressures of 210 GPa.

Our IXS experiment on a polycrystalline iron sample only allows us to determine the orientationally averaged dispersion curves for the LA phonon branch. The experiment is therefore sensitive to preferred orientations of crystals in the sample, when reciprocal lattice vectors are not randomly oriented in comparison with $Q$, XRD measurements carried out in parallel to our IXS study (14) indicate randomly oriented iron crystals at pressures below 40 GPa. At low pressure, we find an excellent agreement between our $V_p$ measurements and orientationally averaged ultrasonic data (3). At pressures higher than 50 GPa, our diffraction data show that hcp iron displays a concentration of $c$ axes parallel to the diamond anvil cell compression axis, in agreement with recent XRD texture measurements (24). Those XRD measurements (24) predict a large anisotropy for $V_p$, with $P$ waves traveling 18% faster at 45° from the $c$ axis than either in the $ab$ plane or along the $c$ axis. According to our XRD measurements, the $x$-ray inelastic scattering by acoustic phonons is made preferentially in the $ab$ plane, because momentum transfer lies perpendicular to the incident x-ray beam and to the $c$ axis. Consequently, one could have underestimated $V_p$, as preferred orientations develop. When anisotropy curves are considered (3, 24), however, the orientationally averaged values of $V_p$ are similar, within a few percent, to the values corresponding to a predominant but not complete preferential orientation of the $c$ axis [Fig. 4 in (3)]. Taking into account experimental error bars, the values of $V_p$ measured in this study should therefore be indistinguishable from orientationally averaged values. Up to 100 GPa, the agreement with measurements of $V_p$ by XRD data (3) is good (Fig. 5), suggesting that the isostress assumption used for interpreting such data, experimentally validated for cubic phases of iron and iron oxide only (2), might be valid for hcp iron as well. A direct comparison with NRIXS data (8, 9) is more difficult. In such experiments, the strong elastic line has to be subtracted in order to perform a meaningful parabolic fit of the low-energy part of the density of states. This yields an average Debye phonon velocity, which has to be converted into $V_p$ and shear wave velocity $V_s$ through an a priori averaging scheme. We note, however, that our $V_p$ measurements are encouragingly consistent with $V_p$ values derived from vibrational densities of state measured by NRIXS (9), although extrapolation of the trends outside of the actual measurement ranges would yield very different values of $V_p$ at inner core conditions. 

Fig. 3. LA phonon dispersion curves of iron at different pressures. Lines represent the results of the fit of Eq. 1. Solid symbols and dashed lines stand for measurements carried out on the bcc phase at 0.2 and 7 GPa. Open symbols and solid lines correspond to the pattern recorded on the hcp structure of iron at 19, 28, 45, 55, 64, and 110 GPa from bottom to top, respectively. The energy position of the phonons could be determined within 3% (error bars).

Fig. 4. LA wave velocities of hcp iron [open squares (this work)] and solid diamonds [shock wave Hugoniot measurements (20)] as a function of specific mass. Preliminary Reference Earth Model seismic data are represented by open diamonds (22). As shown by the dashed line, the experimental points for pure iron move along a straight line. This linear relation between velocity and density, known as Birch’s law, is described in detail in (27). Error bars indicate the error in $V_p$ as obtained from Eq. 1.

Fig. 5. LA wave velocities ($V_p$) of iron as a function of pressure for the present work (●) and extrapolated at higher pressure after a Birch fit to our data [solid line] and plotted along with ultrasonic (○) and XRD measurements (■) (2), NRIXS data (□) (9), shock wave Hugoniot measurements not reduced to 300 K (×) (20), observations for the inner core (○) (22), and ab initio calculations (△) (4–7). The possible effects of preferred orientations as estimated from (3) and (24) are within the displayed error bars.
The Role of \( \text{Br}_2 \) and \( \text{BrCl} \) in Surface Ozone Destruction at Polar Sunrise

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Bromine atoms are believed to play a central role in the depletion of surface-level ozone in the Arctic at polar sunrise. \( \text{Br}_2 \), \( \text{BrCl} \), and \( \text{HOBr} \) have been hypothesized as bromine atom precursors, and there is evidence for chlorine atom precursors as well, but these species have not been measured directly. We report here measurements of \( \text{Br}_2 \), \( \text{BrCl} \), and \( \text{Cl}_2 \) made using atmospheric pressure chemical ionization–mass spectrometry at Alert, Nunavut, Canada. In addition to \( \text{Br}_2 \) mixing ratios up to \( \sim 25 \) parts per trillion, \( \text{BrCl} \) was found at levels as high as \( \sim 35 \) parts per trillion. Molecular chlorine was not observed, implying that \( \text{BrCl} \) is the dominant source of chlorine atoms during polar sunrise, consistent with recent modeling studies. Similar formation of bromine compounds and tropospheric ozone destruction may also occur at mid-latitudes but may not be as apparent owing to more efficient mixing in the boundary layer.

**Surface-level \( O_3 \) depletion events, at times marked by \( O_3 \) mixing ratios below 1 part per billion (ppb) (nmol/mol air), have been observed at polar sunrise (March through May) throughout the Arctic for over a decade (1–4). This depletion has been shown to be correlated with \( Br \) associated with particles (3, 5), leading to the hypothesis that the \( O_3 \) depletion is caused by a chain reaction initiated by a \( Br \) atom (3). Laboratory kinetic experiments and mechanistic data suggest that the chain is initiated through the photolysis of gas phase \( Br \) compounds (6–8). The \( Br \) free radical, a key intermediate in the \( Br \)-catalyzed destruction of \( O_3 \), has been observed at ground level over the Arctic (9, 10). Although the source of active \( Br \) is believed to be oxidation of \( Br^- \) in sea-salt aerosol, snow, and frozen ocean surfaces (11, 12), the mechanism is not well understood. The key to elucidating the chemistry leading to lower atmospheric ozone destruction in the Arctic, and possibly at mid-latitudes, is the measurement of specific gaseous halogen compounds present before and during ozone depletion episodes.**

Ozone depletion by gas phase \( Br \) reactions occurs via reactions 1 to 5:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Br} + O_3 &\rightarrow \text{BrO} + O_2 \quad (1) \\
\text{BrO} + \text{HO}_2 &\rightarrow \text{HOBr} + O_2 \quad (2) \\
\text{HOBr} + hv &\rightarrow \text{OH} + Br \quad (3) \\
\text{BrO} + \text{BrO} &\rightarrow 2\text{Br} + O_2 \quad (4a)
\end{align*}
\]

Cross-reactions of \( BrO \) with \( ClO \) may also be important (13):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{BrO} + \text{ClO} &\rightarrow \text{Br} + \text{OCIO} \quad (6a) \\
\text{Br} + \text{ClO} &\rightarrow \text{BrCl} + O_2 \quad (6b) \\
\text{BrCl} + hv &\rightarrow \text{Br} + \text{Cl} \quad (7)
\end{align*}
\]

Removal of \( Br \) atoms from the chain occurs through reactions with organic compounds such as formaldehyde, which are present in measurable concentrations in the polar spring at high Arctic sites (14). The \( Br^- \) ion in the product \( HBr \) is then temporarily sequestered in aerosol, surface snow, and ice.

To sustain the chain destruction of ozone, there must be heterogeneous reactions to activate \( Br^- \) ions from aerosol and surface snowpack into a gaseous photochemically active form. For example, the uptake of gaseous \( HOBr \) on snow followed by its reaction with \( Br^- \) was suggested as a recycling mechanism for \( Br_2 \) in the Arctic (15):

\[
\text{HOBr} + H^+ + Br^- \rightarrow \text{Br}_2 + H_2O \quad (8)
\]

There is laboratory evidence for the production of \( Br_2 \) via reaction 8 [e.g., (16, 17)].

Previous measurements indicated the presence of a large source of photochemically active \( Br \) and \( Cl \) precursors (6, 7), but the technique used was nonspecific and therefore left proof for the presence of \( Br_2 \) and other halogen atom precursors open. Here we report results from specific measurements of \( Br_2 \), \( BrCl \), and \( Cl_2 \) in the troposphere of the high Arctic, \( \sim 125 \) cm above the snow.

Figure 1 shows the mixing ratios of \( Br_2 \), \( BrCl \), and \( O_3 \) between 9 February and 13 March 2000 (day of year 40 to 73) (18). \( Br_2 \) was first observed above the 2 ppt detection limit on day 54 (23 February). The maximum \( Br_2 \) and \( BrCl \)