

# The amalgamation of Gondwana: calcite twinning and finite strains from the early-late Paleozoic Buzios, Ross, Kurgiakh and Gondwanide orogens

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**Abstract:** Orientated carbonate (calcite twinning strains;  $n = 78$  with 2414 twin measurements) and quartzites (finite strains;  $n = 15$ ) were collected around Gondwana to study the deformational history associated with the amalgamation of the supercontinent The Buzios orogen (545–500 Ma), within interior Gondwana, records the high-grade collisional orogen between the Sao Francisco Craton (Brazil) and the Congo-Angola Craton (Angola and Namibia), and twinning strains in calc-silicates record a SE–NW shortening fabric parallel to the thrust transport Along Gondwana's southern margin, the Saldanian–Ross–Delamerian orogen (590–480 Ma) is marked by a regional unconformity that cuts into deformed Neoproterozoic–Ordovician sedimentary rocks and associated intrusions. Cambrian carbonate is preserved in the central part of the southern Gondwana margin, namely in the Kango Inlier of the Cape Fold Belt and the Ellsworth, Pensacola and Transantarctic mountains. Paleozoic carbonate is not preserved in the Ventana Mountains in Argentina, in the Falkland Islands/Islas Malvinas or in Tasmania. Twinning strains in these Cambrian carbonate strata and synorogenic veins record a complex, overprinted deformation history with no stable foreland strain reference. The Kurgiakh orogen (490 Ma) along Gondwana's northern margin is also defined by a regional Ordovician unconformity throughout the Himalaya; these rocks record a mix of layer-parallel and layer-normal twinning strains with a likely Himalayan (40 Ma) strain overprint and no autochthonous foreland strain site.

Conversely, the Gondwanide orogen (250 Ma) along Gondwana's southern margin has three foreland (autochthonous) sites for comparison with 59 allochthonous thrust-belt strain analyses. From west to east, these include: finite strains from Devonian quartzite preserve a layer-parallel shortening (LPS) strain rotated clockwise in the Ventana Mountains of Argentina; frontal (calcite twins) and internal (quartzite strains) samples in the Cape Fold Belt preserve a LPS fabric that is rotated clockwise from the autochthonous north-south horizontal shortening in the foreland strain site; Falkland Devonian quartzite shows the same clockwise rotation of the LPS fabric; and Permian limestone and veins in Tasmania record a thrust transport-parallel LPS fabric. Early amalgamation of Gondwana (Ordovician) is preserved by local layer-parallel and layer-normal strain without evidence of far-field deformation, whereas the Gondwanide orogen (Permian) is dominated by layer-parallel shortening, locally rotated by dextral shear along the margin, that propagated across the supercontinent.

The c. 700–500 Ma assembly of Gondwana was a protracted process that involved the Pan-African collision of cratons in the interior of Gondwana, as well as accretionary orogenesis along its margins (Cawood 2005; Cawood and Buchan 2007; Nelson and Tuttle 2018; Schmitt *et al.* 2018; Cawood *et al.* 2021). In many areas, these late Neoproterozoic–

Ordovician orogenic belts experienced extensive erosion, creating peneplains on which regional transgressive sandstones, glacial deposits (Craddock *et al.* 2019b) and *Glossopteris*-bearing shale were subsequently deposited (du Toit 1937). In the late Paleozoic, some of these sedimentary successions were involved in shortening associated with the

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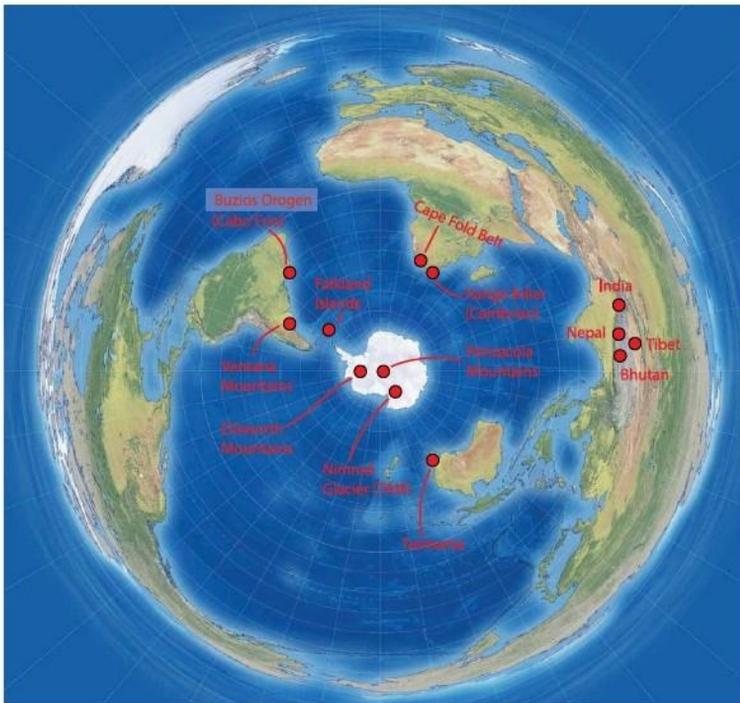
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Gondwanide orogen (Craddock 1982; Halbach and Swart 1983; de Wit 1992; Dalziel 1997), and a thin-skinned belt formed along the continent's trailing southern margin of Gondwana as it collided to the north with Laurentia (Appalachian-Caledonide-Variscan belt: Cawood and Buchan 2007; Craddock *et al.* 2017c) during the assembly of Pangaea. Although these orogenic episodes have long been known, there is a general lack of strain data despite their potential to provide valuable information about the geodynamic processes involved in supercontinent assembly. We provide strain data from these early and late Paleozoic orogenic belts found around Gondwana (Argentina, Brazil, southern Africa, the Falkland Islands/Islands Malvenas, the Ellsworth and Transantarctic Mountains, Tasmania, and the Himalaya: Figs 1-5) and compare the strain fields that propagated across Pangaea through these two orogenic cycles (Wilson 1966; Veevers *et al.* 1997) in order to assess the kinematic dynamics and responses to the assembly of Gondwana.

## Regional geology

Reconstructions of the Rodinia supercontinent are constrained by palaeopole data, and the realignment

of the Grenville orogen (*c.* 1200-980 Ma) belts through North and South America, Antarctica, southern Africa, and India (Powell *et al.* 1993; Li and Powell 2001; Meert and Powell 2001; Meert 2003; Meert and Torsvik 2003; Torsvik 2003; Tohver *et al.* 2006; Godge *et al.* 2010; Loewy *et al.* 2011; Torsvik and Robin Cocks 2013; Craddock *et al.* 2017a; Palin *et al.* 2018). The break-up of Rodinia (*c.* 800-700 Ma) set the stage for the protracted assembly of Gondwana. Tectonomagmatic events are recorded in Neoproterozoic-lower Paleozoic mobile belts that wrapped around Precambrian cratonic cores, including the Pan-African orogen (*c.* 650-550 Ma), as well as Neoproterozoic-early Paleozoic mobile belts that formed along the supercontinent's margins (Boger and Miller 2004; Boger 2011). During the Cambrian-Ordovician, the peri-Gondwana realm was characterized by the deposition of siliciclastic sediment and minor carbonate. Examples include the Cambrian Kango Group exposed in a structural window in the central Cape Fold Belt (Barnett *et al.* 1997; de Wit *et al.* 1998), the Cambrian-Ordovician Heritage Group section in the southern Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica (Webers *et al.* 1992), the Cambrian-Ordovician Byrd Group and Liv Group exposed along the length (1300 km) of the Transantarctic Mountains (Stump 1992, 1995; Myrow *et al.*



**Fig. 1.** South polar projection indicating the field locations for strain data (tables 1 & 2) of now widely separated portions of Gondwana. TAM, Transantarctic Mountains.



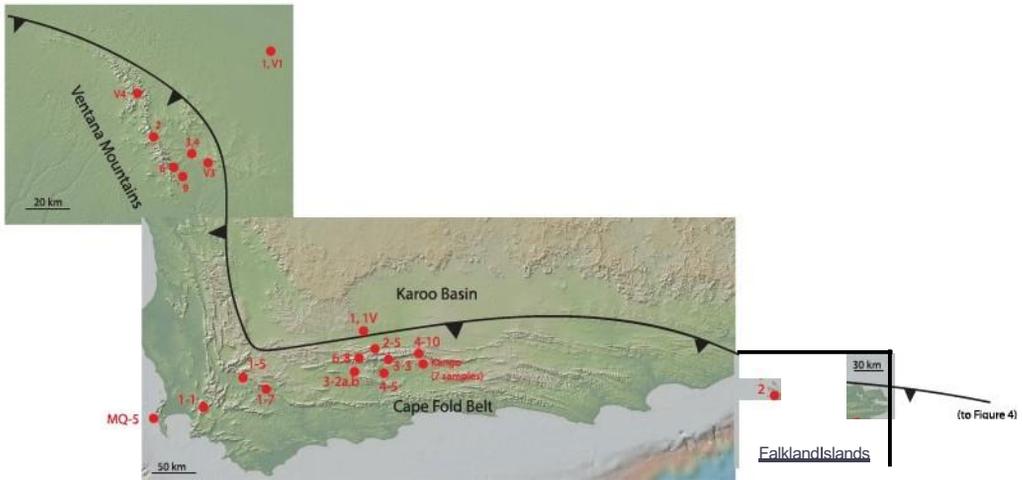


Fig. 3. DEM base (GeoApp 3.6.6) of the western part of the Gondwanide belt with sample sites identified. See Tables I & 2.

Deformation of these Cambrian-Ordovician sections have a plethora of local orogen names and tectonic belts (Cawood and Buchan 2007). In the interior of Gondwana, the collision of the Sao Francisco Craton (Brazil) and Congo-Angola Craton (Angola and Namibia), at 540–490 Ma, is known as the Buzios orogen (Schmitt *et al.* 2004, 2012, 2018), and created calc-silicates ideal for calcite strain analysis. Along Gondwana's southern margin, the Ross orogen includes deformed Cambrian-Ordovician sedimentary rock exposed along the Transantarctic Mountains, here these rocks are typically metamorphosed to greenschist to amphibolite facies, are gently to tightly folded, are characterized by a weak to pervasive local cleavage, are intruded by *c.* 500 Ma granitoids and rest unconformably below Devonian sandstone at the base of the Beacon Supergroup (Stump 1992, 1995; Elliot 2013; Goodge 2020). Deformation and magmatism contemporaneous with that of the Ross orogen extends to areas in South America and Australia, and is likely to include the mild deformation found in the lower Paleozoic section of the Pensacola and Ellsworth mountains, and in the Kango Inlier carbonate of southern Africa (Craddock 1982; Stump 1995; Encarnación and Grunow 1996; Curtis 1998; de Wit *et al.* 1998; Duebendorfer and Rees 1998; Foster *et al.* 2005; Foden *et al.* 2006; Gonzalez *et al.* 2018; Goodge 2020). Along Gondwana's northern margin, the Kurgakh Orogeny is recorded in the Tethyan Himalaya by local folds and faults, low grade (diagenetic to low epizone) to higher grade (garnet) *c.* 490 Ma metamorphism, 552–479 Ma granitic intrusions, and an unconformity that is locally angular and which is overlain by Ordovician conglomerate. The latter is also expressed in the Lhasa and

Qiantang terranes of Tibet and in the Baoshan Block of western Yunnan (DeCelles *et al.* 2000; Miller *et al.* 2001; Myrow *et al.* 2003, 2016; Gehrels *et al.* 2006; Cawood *et al.* 2007; Torsvik *et al.* 2009). Along the northern margin of West Gondwana, the Cadomian-Avalonian orogen primarily records active margin volcanism and sedimentation from *c.* 800 to 530 Ma. Subsequent Cambrian volcanism and sedimentation has been attributed to lithospheric extension, although some authors suggest that the Cambrian-Ordovician magmatism locally occurred in association with an episode of crustal thickening that extended until *c.* 480 Ma, followed by post-orogenic deposition of Ordovician siliciclastic sediments along a passive margin (Villasca *et al.* 2016; Garcia-Arias *et al.* 2018; Cawood *et al.* 2021).

After early Paleozoic deformation, Ordovician-Carboniferous age strata were deposited along the northern Gondwana passive margin in India, followed by emplacement of the lower Permian Panjal Traps, and associated rifting and formation of the Neo-Tethys Ocean (Draganits *et al.* 2005). Post-rift sedimentation continued throughout the Cretaceous (Draganits *et al.* 2005). Along the southern Gondwana margin, a Devonian-Permian Gondwana succession overlies the erosional remnants of the late Neoproterozoic-lower Paleozoic orogenic belts (Isbell 1999). The Gondwana section, Devonian sandstone, Carboniferous-Permian glacial diamicrite (Frakes and Crowell 1967, 1969; Frakes *et al.* 1975; Crowell 1978; Craddock *et al.* 2019a), and Permian *Glossopteris*-bearing shale and coal, are deformed, forming a *c.* 250 Ma, thin-skinned, fold belt, known as the Gondwanide orogen, in the Ventana Mountains of Argentina, the Cape Fold Belt of South Africa, the Falkland Islands/Islands Malvinas,

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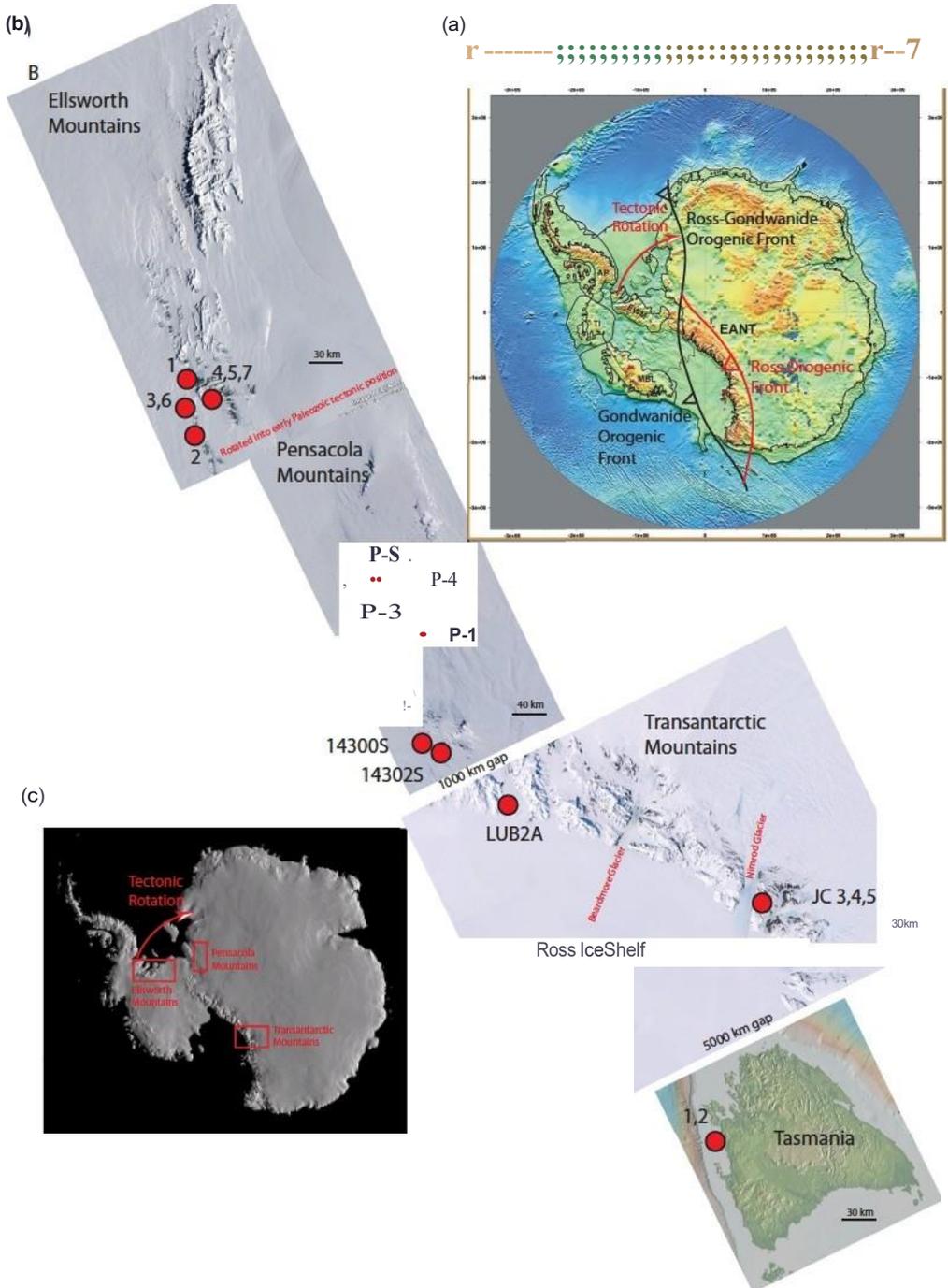


Fig. 4. Ice-free Antarctica (a) with tectonic provinces (EANT, East Antarctica; EWM, Ellsworth Mountains; TI, Thurston Island; MBL, Marie Byrd Land) as a guide for sample sites (b: see Table 2) referenced to ice-covered Antarctica (c) and the continuation into Tasmania

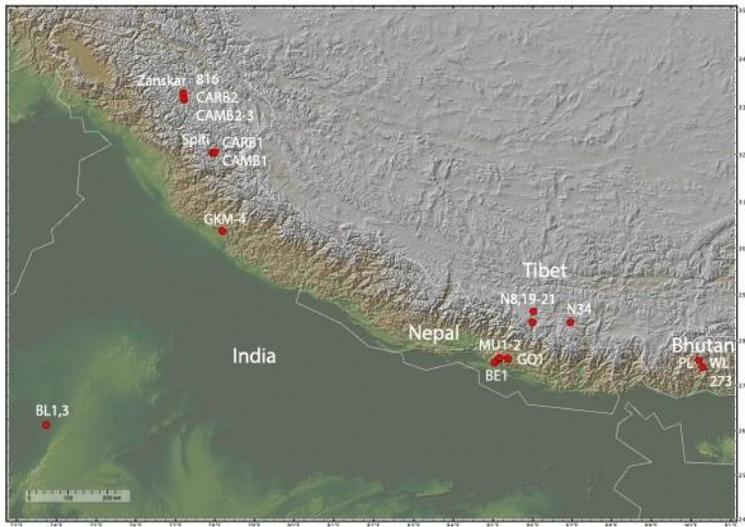


Fig. 5. DEM basemap (GeoApp 3.6.1) of samples sites within the Himalaya and foreland.

and the Ellsworth and Pensacola mountains in Antarctica (du Toit 1937; Craddock 1969, 1982) (Figs 1 & 2). The trace of this fold belt is lost in central West Antarctica but its outboard presence may explain a change in palaeocurrent directions that are recorded in upper Triassic strata in the undeformed Gondwana section (Beacon Supergroup) in the Transantarctic Mountains (Elliot 2013). Permian-Triassic deformation took place again along the southern Gondwana margin in eastern Australia (Glen 2005). Deformation of the Gondwanide belt was contemporaneous with the Pangaea-forming collision of Gondwana and Laurasia, and the resulting reactivation (inversion) of older structures in Gondwana, namely the Kiri uplift in central Africa (Daly *et al.* 1991), and Laurussia, including the Keweenaw-Kapuskaing uplift in central North America (Malone *et al.* 2016; Craddock *et al.* 2017b).

## Methods

### *Calcite twin analysis*

The calcite strain-gauge technique (CSGT) of Groshong (1972) uses the intracrystalline twinning of rock-forming calcite grains to derive a 3D orientation of stress and strain ellipsoids during twinning. Although the result is a strain tensor, a similar orientation of the stress tensor is calculated in the case of coaxial deformation (Turner 1953, 1962). The CSGT has been used to constrain 3D stress and strain tensor directions in veins (Craddock and van der Pluijm 1988; Kilsdonk and Wiltshko 1988; Paulsen *et al.* 2014), limestone (Groshong 1975, 1976;

Engelder 1979; Spang and Groshong 1981; Wiltshko *et al.* 1985; Craddock and van der Pluijm 1989; Mosar 1989; Ferrill 1991; Craddock *et al.* 1993, 2000, 2007b, 2012), marble (Craddock *et al.* 2017a), amygdaloidal basalt (Craddock and Pearson 1994; Craddock *et al.* 1997, 2004), calcite ocelli in lamprophyre (Craddock *et al.* 2007a) and fault gouge where the calcite has been dated using U-Pb methods (Nuriel *et al.* 2017, 2019; Weinberger *et al.* 2020; Craddock *et al.* 2022). Lacombe *et al.* (2021) reviewed the history and methods of calcite twin analysis.

At temperatures of *c.* 200°C, intracrystalline deformation of calcite results in the formation of e-twins. The formation of calcite e-twins requires a shear stress that exceeds *c.* 10 MPa (Wenk *et al.* 1987; Burkhard 1993; Lacombe and Laurent 1996; Ferrill 1998). Calcite offers three glide systems for twinning. From U-stage measurements of the width, frequency and orientation of twins, and the crystallographic orientation of the host crystals, a strain tensor can be calculated using a least-squares technique (Groshong 1972). To remove 'noise' from the dataset, a refinement of the calculated strain tensor can be achieved by stripping 20% of the twins with the highest deviations (Groshong *et al.* 1984). This procedure has been used where the number of measured grains was large ( $n > 20$ ). In cases where the data appear to be inhomogeneous, the separation of incompatible twins ('NEV', negative expected values) from compatible twins ('PEV', positive expected values) in the initial dataset allows the separate calculation of two or more least-squares deviatoric strain tensors. Thus, the CSGT can be used to obtain information on superimposed deformations

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(Groshong 1972, 1974) and differential stress magnitudes (Rowe and Rutter 1990).

The validity of this stripping procedure was demonstrated in experimental tests where the reliability depends on the overall complexity of deformation and the number of grains with twins (Groshong 1974; Teufel 1980). The stripping procedure was used in cases of high proportions of NEVs and many measured grains. An experimental re-evaluation of the CSGT has revealed that measurements of about 50 grains on one thin section or 25 grains on two mutually perpendicular thin sections yield the best results (Groshong *et al.* 1984; Evans and Groshong 1994; Ferrill *et al.* 2004). The chance of extracting the records of more than two deformations from one dataset is limited when dealing with natural rocks (Burkhard 1993). Individual analyses of, for example, veins, matrix and nodules allow the acquisition of several strain tensors without applying statistical data stripping. The complexity of rotational strains in fault zones is limited to the efforts of Gray *et al.* (2005), although the technique is more robust now that calcite can be dated using U-Pb methods (Nuriel *et al.* 2017, 2019). The application of the CSGT requires the following assumptions to be valid: (1) low temperatures (dominance of Type I and Type II twins); (2) random c-axis orientations of calcite; (3) homogenous strain; (4) coaxial deformation; (5) volume constancy; (6) low-porosity materials; and (7) low bulk strain (< 15%). If these conditions are not fully met, calculated strain tensor datasets could be biased, modified or random. Strain tensors were calculated from calcite e-twin datasets using the software package of Evans and Groshong (1994). Fabric interpretations are based on the orientation of the shortening axis ( $e_1$ ), which usually plots near the contoured maxima of the Turner (1953) axes, and if  $e_1$  is c. 20° from the sample bedding, then layer-parallel shortening (LPS) is inferred. Layer-normal shortening (LNS) is the fabric where  $e_1$  is at a high angle (>45°) to bedding; vein-normal (VNS) or vein-parallel (VPS) shortening are additional potential fabric interpretations.

### Finite strains

Finite strains were measured in quartzite samples using a variation on the centre-to-centre method (auto-correlation function (ACF); see also Owens 1984) as described in Craddock and McKiernan (2007).

## Results

Strain results (Tables 1 & 2) are presented from west (Ventana Mountains, Argentina) to east (Maria Island, Tasmania) across southern Gondwana (Figs

1-4), then to the Himalayas on the northern margin of Gondwana (Figs 1, 2 & 5). In Figures 6-18, field photographs of deformation (Figs 6, 7, 9 & 15) and stereographic plots of strain data (Figs 8, 10-14 & 16-18) for different regions are presented. Summary plots of strain data are provided in Figures 19 (Kurgakh and Himalayan orogens) and 20 (Buzios, Ross and Gondwanide orogens), with shortening axes projected across Ordovician and Permian plate reconstructions in Figures 21 & 22 (GPLATES: Miller *et al.* 2018).

### Sierra de la Ventana Mountains, Argentina

The lower Ventana Mountains expose the contact between Proterozoic crystalline rocks and basal Gondwana section quartzite (Fig. 3) (Buggisch 1987; Cobbold *et al.* 1991; von Gosen *et al.* 1991; Alessandretti *et al.* 2013) that have a common structural style across southern Gondwana (Fig. 7). Farther east, in the Ventana foreland, is the Sierra Septionales Range with Proterozoic micritic limestone and younger calcite veins. We sampled the Devonian Ventana Group quartzite in four places and the finite strains preserve a LPS fabric with shortening axes trending easterly; one Proterozoic quartzite sample from the foreland preserves a LPS fabric with shortening directed at 043° (Fig. 8). Four calcite veins were collected, one in the foreland and three in the Ventana Mountains; all preserve a VPS fabric but with a range of orientations.

### Caho Frio Terrane, Brazil

The collision between the Sao Francisco Craton (Brazil: Fig. 2a) and the Congo-Angola Craton (Angola and Namibia) spanned the period 540-490 Ma, resulting in remarkable ultrahigh-pressure (UHP) tectonites and deformation, including calc-silicates and calcite interlayers (Fig. 9) (Schmitt *et al.* 2004, 2008, 2012; Vieira *et al.* 2022). The peak metamorphic age of 540 Ma places this metamorphism and deformation as part of the final assembly of the interior portions of Gondwana. Metasedimentary rocks of Ediacaran age, preserved as kyanite gneisses interlayered with calc-silicate and amphibolite layers, is refolded in recumbent coaxial north-south fold axes. Calcite twinning strains from two calc-silicate samples record a LPS fabric with the shortening axes parallel to the inferred collisional shortening direction (320°) and no younger Gondwanide strain overprint (Fig. 9). A calcite vein marginal to a Cretaceous mafic dyke (057°, 90°) that formed during the opening of the Atlantic Ocean was also sampled and these twins record shortening parallel to the mafic dyke and the evolving Atlantic margin, with vertical extension.

**Table 1.** *Strain samples by location*

Location	Finite strain	Limestone	Calcite twinning strains		Marble	NEV	Cale-silicate	Totals
			NEV	Vein				
Ventana Mountains, Argentina	S			4				9
Rubiera Terrane, Brazil				1			2	3
Cape Belt, South Africa	8	7		12	2			29
Falkland Islands	2							2
Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica		6	3	2				12
Pensacola Mountains, Antarctica		4		3				9
Nimrod Glacier, Antarctica		2						3
Shackleton Glacier, Antarctica								1
Tasmania		1						1
Himalaya and Foreland, India		9						9
Bhutan		1			2			4
Nepal		1			3			5
Tibet		4			1			5
Totals	15	35	6	23	4	7	0	92

### *Cape Fold Belt, South Africa*

Craddock *et al.* (2001b) reported calcite twinning strain results for a study of synfolded calcite in the Permian Prince Albert Formation and syndeformational fracture fillings in Dwyka diamictite clasts, both referenced to LPS strains in the nearby foreland to the north. We include the foreland results here, referenced to the finite-strain results for Devonian quartzite in the Cape Fold Belt (Figs IO & 11) (Halbich and Swart 1983; de Wit 1992; Halbich 1992; de Wit *et al.* 1998). All eight quartzite samples preserve LPS fabrics with the shortening axes rotated east from the inferred Gondwanide thrust transport direction (roughly north-south), similar to the results reported in Craddock *et al.* (2007a). The Cambrian carbonates of the Kango window beneath the Cape belt (de Wit *et al.* 1998) are all steeply dipping (roughly east-west, 90°) and the twinning strains of seven limestone samples and two cross-cutting veins were analysed (Table 2). Five limestone samples record north-south horizontal shortening normal to bedding (I.NS). Sample Kango-6 records a LPS fabric with a vertical shortening axis plunge and vertical bedding. Limestone sample Kango-1 strikes SE-NW, 90° with shortening normal to bedding and plunging to the NE. Vein Kango-5 strikes 010°, 90° and preserves a north-south horizontal shortening strain (VPS) that is also normal to bedding, whereas Kango-6 (vein) strikes 335°, 90° and records a horizontal shortening strain plunging 20° towards 020° (VNS). The Proterozoic Malmesbury Formation slate in Cape Town is cross-cut by

north-south, vertical veins that preserve a north-south horizontal shortening (VPS) strain. None of the samples experienced a twinning strain overprint (low NEVs) despite being exposed under the younger Cape belt. Shortening and extension axis data are plotted for the Ross and Gondwanide orogens for the Cape sample suite (Fig. 12); these data are included in orogen-wide plots (Fig. 20; see the Discussion).

### *Falkland Islands/ Islas Malvinas*

Two samples of the Devonian Port Stanley Formation quartzite (Figs 3 & 7e) were analysed and finite-strain results include two LPS fabrics, both orientated clockwise (*c.* 40°) from the inferred south-directed Gondwanide thrust transport direction (Fig. 14; Table 2).

### *Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica*

The Ellsworth Mountains are the geographical and tectonic oddity of Antarctica, misaligned from the structural fabric of the Transantarctic Mountains and underlain by Grenvillian crust (Craddock 1969, 1970, 1982; Dalziel and Elliot 1982; Millar and Pankhurst 1987; Craddock *et al.* 2011c). The mountains are a north-plunging anticlinorium, exposing *Glossopteris-bearing* Permian strata upsection in the northern Sentinel Range (Craddock *et al.* 1965) and Cambrian strata to the south in the Heritage Range (Webers *et al.* 1992). The Cambrian section

**Table 2.** *Strain results for the Gondwana margin*

Sample	Rock unit	Calcite type/age	Orientation	Grains (n=)	$\epsilon_1$	$\epsilon_2$	$\epsilon_3$	NEV (%)	$t_a$ (bars)	Interpreted fabric	Early Paleozoic inferred thrust Transport direction	Late Paleozoic inferred thrust Transport direction	Location	C. Omrent
<b>Sierra de la Ventana, Argentina</b>														
I	Tandilia Formation	Vein(Permian)	340°, 90°	24	351°, 9°	082°, 5°	203°, 80°	-0.2	25	-421.00	VPS	045°	Sierra Septionales Range	Precambrian mkrritic LS host
2	Sauce Grande Formation	Vein(Permian)	101°, 90°	17	193°, 74°	341°, 41°	073°, go	-10.2	17	-400.00	VPS	045°	Abrade la Ventana	
3	Sauce Grande Formation	Vein/fl,nnian	000°, 90°	18	111°, 5°	0860.60	305°, 82°	-2.53	27	-357.00	VPS	045°	Sierrade la Ventana	
4	Sauce Grande Form.at.ion	Vein(Permian)	337°, 90°	17	338°, 3°	070°, 17°	236.0, 72°	-0.3	II	-322.00	VPS	045°	Sierrade la Ventana	
V-1	Quartzite	Ptote. rowic	Horimntal	ACT	043°, r	129°, 5°	2610, 860	1.1:1:0.88			LPS	045°	SierraSept. Range	
V-3	Quartzite	Devonian	321°, 4°rw	ACT	u, r, 44°	133°, 38°	037°, go	1.13:1:0.87			LPS	045°	Peralta	
V-4	Quartzite	Devonian	334°, 62°W	ACT	U, 3°, 64°	141°, 12°	053°, 4°	1.21:1:0.78			LPS	045°	CelTO Bahia Blanca	
V-6	Quartzite	Devonian	328°, 25°w	ACT	07go, 4°	1830, 360	337°, 24°	1.11:1:0.92			LPS	045°	Abrade la Ventana	
V-9	Quartzite	Devonian	338°, 24°w	ACT n=76	os1°, r	354°, r	227°, 84°	1.23:1:0.86			LPS	045°	Pan de Azuca	
<b>Brazil</b>														
B-1	Proterozoic	Calc-silicate/Cambrian	060°, 65°S	33	31go, 9°	22S\ 86°	062°, 3°	-3.4	15	-342.00	LPS	320°	Caho Frio	
B-2	Cretaceous dyke	Dyke-margin vein	05r, 90°	37	235°, r	352°, 4	13go, 82°	-5.8	4	-374.00	VPS	320°	Caho Frio	
B-3	Proterowic	Calc-silicate/Cambrian	Horimntal	29	322°, 5°	0710, 350	231°, 6°	-3.2	6	-397.00	LPS	320°	Buzio	
<b>Cape Fold Belt, South Africa</b>														
<i>n=99</i>														
Iv	Prince Albert Formation	Vein(Permian)	000°, 90°	22	351°, 12°	063°, 3°	210°, 86°	-9.2	18	-389.00	LPS/VNS	000°	Karro fut-eland	Craddock et al (2007a)
2-PBV	Prince Albert Formation	Vein/fl,nnian	090°, 35°S	48	211°, 22°	05r, r	350°, r	-0.15	0	-712.00	LPS	000°	Foldstudy; liroo	Craddock et al (2007a)
2-NEV	Prince Albert formation	Vein(Permian)	090°, 35° S	19	067°, 65°	168°, 5°	212°, 21°	-7.99	100	-718.00	LNS	000°	Foldstudy; liroo	Craddock et al (2007b)
3-PBV	Prince Albert formation	Vein/Permian	Horimntal	43	175°, 14°	u, 1°, 47°	045°, 31°	-3.65	0	-721.00	LPS	000°	Foldstudy; hinge	Craddock et al (2007a)
3-NEV	Prince Albert formation	Vein/fl,nnian	Horizantal	23	251°, 71°	055°, 11°	322°, 12°	-3.76	100	-725.00	LNS	000°	Foldstudy; hinge	Craddock et al (2007b)
4	Prince Albert formation	Vein/Permian	090°, 35° N	65	357°, 28°	0910, 120	177°, 64°	-0.4	2	-323.00	LPS	000°	Foldstudy; liroo	Craddock et al (2007a)
5	Prince Albert formation	Vein(Permian)	090°, 35°N	24	028°, 31°	104°, r	201°, 76°	-5.8	0	-371.00	LPS	000°	Foldstudy; liroo	Craddock et al (2007b)
6	Dwyka	IS Clas./Cambrian?	N/A	25	000°, 15°	11go, 55°	088°, 35°	-4.6	0	-342.00	CNS	000°	Cleavage study	Craddock et al (2007a)
7	Dwyka	Vein(Permian)	090°, 90°	24	192°, 2°	300°, 62°	121°, 19°	-5.1	0	-562.00	CNS	000°	Cleavage study	Craddock et al (2007b)
8	Dwyka	Fibrous Vein/Perm	Horizantal	25	182°, 4°	011°, 81°	282°, r	-4.8	0	-482.00	CNS	000°	Cleavage study	Craddock et al (2007a)
C.composite (6,7,8)	Dwyka	Composite/Penn	Corooined	74	181°, i-	350°, 88°	091°, 3°	-5		-465.00	CNS	000°	Cleavage study	Craddock et al (2007b)
K.ngo 3-3	K.ngo Inlier	Vein/Cambrian	090°, 90°	21	00r, 3°	302°, 5°	182°, 86°	-2.3	0	-411.,00	LNS	000°	Kango Inlier	deWit ral. (1998)

(Ccontinued)

Table 2. *Continued.*

Sample	Rock unit	Calcite type/age	Orientation	Grains (n=)	$e_1$	$e_2$	$e_3$	$s_1$ (%)	NEV (%)	$tq$ (bars)	Interpreted fabric	Early Paleomic inferred thrust	Late Paleomic inferred thrust	Location	C. Omrent
												Ttransport direction	Transport direction		
	Kango Inlier	LS/Cambrian	300°, 90°	35	044°, 31°	271°, 5°	178°, 27°	-M	6	-384.00	INS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
2	Kango Inlier	LS/Cambrian	090°, 90°	34	001°, 21°	156°, 113°	252°, 38°	-6	5	-397.00	INS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
3	Kango Inlier	LS/Cambrian	090°, 90°	64	344°, 37°	167°, 51°	248°, 1°	-3.6	3	-402.00	INS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
5	Kango Inlier	Vein/Caniirian?	010°, 90°	23	001°, 17°	111°, 21°	171°, 81°	-7	9	-412.00	INS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
6	Kango Inlier	LS/Cambrian	090°, 90°	19	167°, 86°	283°, 2°	013°, 3°	-6.2	5	-384.00	VPS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
6v	Kango Inlier	Vein/Caniirian?	335°, 90°	15	020°, 20°	308°, 12°	186°, 62°	-2.7	0	-425.00	IPS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
8	Kango Inlier	LS/Cambrian	090°, 90°	28	354°, 21°	122°, 44°	213°, 34°	-4.6	18	-411.00	VNS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
Kango4-5	Kango Inlier	Vein/Caniirian?	(177°, 90°)	25	170°, 14°	208°, 12°	351°, 84°	-10.1	25	-380.00	INS	000°		Kango Inlier	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
MQ5	MQ5	Vein/Slate	000°, 90°	43	357°, 3°	UJJ°, 3°	1000, 860	-14.1		-372.00	VPS	000°		Quany.Cape North	Proterozoic host
CFBI-1	Table Mountain Group	Devonian	Horizontal	ACF	032°, 4°	308°, go	131°, 31°	1.12:1.0:88			LTS		000°	Town North	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFBI-5	Table Mountain Group	Devonian	Horizontal	ACF	0210, 30	288°, 6°	179°, 82°	1.22:1.0:89			LTS		000°	NuyThru.1;t	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFBI-7	Table Mountain Group	Devonian	090°, 90°	ACF	248°, 77°	348°, 12°	(174°, 9°)	1.17:1.0:92			LTS		000°	Koogman's	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFB3-2a	Table Mountain Group	Devonian	088°, 78°S	ACF	251°, 68°	341°, 23°	094°, go	1.21:1.0:90			IPS		000°	Kloof	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFB3-2b	Table Mountain Group	Devonian	094°, 47°S	ACF	227°, 43°	(176°, 31°)	302°, 23°	1.17:1.0:86			IPS		000°	SevenweeksJX)Ort	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFB3-3	Jv.ninsula Formation	Devonian	087°, 45°S	ACF	241°, 33°	088°, 16°	344°, 5°	1.22:1.0:84			IPS		000°	Calittdorp	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFB4-5	VartwellIR>rrmtion	Devonian	091°, 72°S	ACF	252°, 68°	131°, 14°	012°, 22°	1.16:1.0:93			IPS		000°	Boplaas	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
CFB4.JO	ninsula Fonnat.K>n	Devonian	087°, 82°S	ACF	244°, 71°	301°, 17°	(179°, 21°)	1.18:1.0:86			IPS		000°	Swartz:berg Fliss	de Wit <i>et al.</i> (1998)
					*==73.3										
<b>Falkland Islands</b>															
1	Ri:it Stanley Fonnation	Devonian Qnw	090°, 90°	ACF	092°, 42°	233°, 41°	188°, 6°	1.24:1:93			IPS		000°	Stanley	
2	Ri:it Stanley Fonnation	Devonian Qnw	Horizontal	ACF	290°, go	186°, 30°	035°, 58°	1.14:1:83			IPS		000°	WestIsland	
<b>Ellsworth Mountains, Antardia,</b>															
1	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	090°, 32°S	22	211°, 113°	3010, 30	036°, 88°	-11.2	20	-357.00	IPS	090°		Soholt Peaks	Craddock <i>et al.</i> (2017c)
2v	Minaret Limestone	Vein/ Caniirian	021°, 56°E	24	018°, 8°	118°, 18°	308°, 34°	-11.1	12	-555.00	VPS	090°		Mowit Fordell	Craddock <i>et al.</i> (2017b)
3	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	235°, 63°S	76	167°, 67°	321°, 5°	0240, 210	-12.6	25	-400.00	IPS	090°		Minaret hale	Craddock <i>et al.</i> (2017a)
3-NEV	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	285°, 63°S	19	052°, 36°	318°, 6°	219°, 53°	-3.1	100	-400.00	LNS	090°			Craddock <i>et al.</i> (2017c)

4	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	290°, 40°S	71	251°, 31°	168°, 4°	01,7°, 14°	125	28	-555.00	Ll'S	090"	Mount Fordell	Craddock <i>et al</i> (2017b)
4-NEV	Minaret Limestone	LS/ Cambrian	290°, 40°S	20	095°, 27°	274°, 5°	183°, 31°	-6.9	100	-555.00	LNS	090"		Craddock, <i>et al</i> (2017a)
5	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	290°, 40°S	35	214°\ 26°	312°, 15°	117°, 52°	-3.3	41	-588.00	Ll'S	090"	Mount Fordell	Craddock, <i>et al</i> (2017c)
5-NEV	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	290°, 40°S	14	141°, 32°	237°, 12°	357°, 84°	-8.3	100	-588.00	Ll'S	090"		Craddock, <i>et al</i> (2017b)
6	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	2ss., 41°s	27	193°, 22°	274°, 8°	012°, 87°	-13.4	18	-588.00	Ll'S	090"	Minaret Peak	Craddock <i>et al</i> (2017a)
6v	Minaret Limestone	Vein/Cambrian	340°, 90°	38	018°, 11°	277°, 12°	169°, 41°	-4.3	40	-555.00	VNS	090"	Minaret Peak	Craddock, <i>et al</i> (2017c)
6v-NEV	Minaret Limestone	Vein/Cambrian	340°, 90°	15	n1°, 81°	243°, 3°	334°, 8°	-4.1	100	-555.00	VPS	090"		Craddock, <i>et al</i> (2017b)
7	Minaret Limestone	LS/Cambrian	298°, 44°S	37	220°, 38°	113°\ 21°	312°, 52°	-6.3	7	-458.00	Ll'S	090"	Mount Fordell	Craddock, <i>et al</i> (2017a)
8	Minaret Limestone	Striated thrust gouge	300°, 20°W	37	247°, 21°	147°, 5°	317°, 84°	-6.4	4	-384.00	Ll'S	090"		Craddock <i>et al</i> (2019a)
				<i>n=435</i>										
<b>Pennsacola Mountains, Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica</b>														
P-1 (PEV)	Nelson Limestone	Vein/Cambrian	041°, 90°	30	0450, 40	138°, 12°	227°, 81°	-4.8	50	-302.00	VPS	110"	R7415	British Antarctic Survey samples
P-1 (NEV)	Nelson Limestone	Vein/Cambrian	041°, 90°	15	223°, 12°	127°, 7°	318°, 88°	-5.2	100	-343.00	VPS	110"	R7415	
p.3	Nelson limestone	Vein/Cambrian	335°, 90°	25	257°, 87°	178°, 6°	091°, 3°	-15	16	-350.00	VPS	110"	R7435d	
P-4 (NEV)	Nelson lime.gone.	Conglomerate	031°, 80°W	48	284°, 63°	026°, 18°	153°, 41°	-6.3	38	-337.00	Ll'S	110"	R7433-7a	
P-4 (PEV)	Nelson limestone	Conglomerate	031°, 80°W	18	172°, 51°	073°, 9°	337°, 43°	-5.2	100	-331.00	VPS	110"	R7433-7a	
p.5	Nelson Limestone	Vein/Cambrian	082°, 79°S	33	0880, 140	233°, 31°	338°, 17°	-8.2	16	-353.00	VPS	110"	R7435B	
143005	Nelson limestone	LS/Cambrian	087°, 57°S	28	011°, 42°	118°, 18°	226°, 42°	-2.9	7	-217.00	LNS	110"		
143025	Nelson limestone	LS/Cambrian	079°, 53°S	25	143°, 39°	332°, 51°	236°, 4°	-15	15	-202.00	Ll'S	110"		
				<i>n=222</i>										
<b>Nimrod Glacier, Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica</b>														
JC3	Byrd Group	Vein/Cambrian	038°, 90°	22	135°, 22°	214°, 4°	313°, 88°	-9.9	0	-350.00	VNS	070"		
JC4a	Byrd Group	Vein/Cambrian	031°, 70°SE	26	018°, 12°	112°, 58°	274°, 23°	-2	34	-354.00	VNS	070"		
JC4b	Byrd Group	LS/ Cambrian	Notwi										MICrite	
JCS	Byrd Group	LS/ Cambrian	Horizontal	30	177°, 3°	357°, 87°	088°, 2°	-2.1	3	-366.00	Ll'S	070"		
				<i>n=78</i>										
<b>Shackleton Glacier, Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica</b>														
LUB2A	Liv Group	MBL/Cambrian	022°, 66°SE	25	268°, 8°	1730, -11, 0	011°, 61°	-4.6	15	-243.00	LNS	090"		
				<i>n=25</i>										
<b>Tasmania</b>														
1	Panneener Group	LS/l'l, nian	Horimntal	33	344°, 6°	078°, 7°	244°, 88°	-3.4	7	-358.00	Ll'S	270"		
2	Panneener Group	Vein/l'l, nian	092°, 90°	42	352°, 4°	083°, 5°	191°, 87°	-7.1	5	-397.00	VNS	270"		
				<i>n=15</i>										
<b>India</b>														
GKM-4		foliated LS/ Creraoecous(?)	228°, 38° NW	18	045°, 32°	313°, 4°	218°, 59°	-2.7	4	-211.00	Ll'S		Gopi Chand Ka Mahal	
BL1	Bilara Limestone	LS/Fdiacaran	007°, ss-sE	58	219°, 32°	324°, 23°	83°, 49°	-1.6	23	-231.00	LNS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)	Marwar Basin	
BL3	Bilara Limestone	LS/Fdiacaran	048°, 9°SE	28	224°, 12°	346°, 69°	128°, 16°	-2.1	3	-228.00	Ll'S	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)	Marwar Basin	
CARil	Lipiak funnat	LS/Carboniferous	335°, 23°E	43	056°, 30°	298°, 39°	172°, 36°	-9.14	9	-274.00	Ll'S		Parahio Valley	P. mlsen <i>et al</i> (2007b)
CAMBI	Parahio funnat	LS/Cambrian	354°, 37°E	42	01,6°, 25°	158°, 55°	285°\ 23°	-8.58	19	-256.00	Ll'S	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)	Parahio Valley	Paulsen <i>et al</i> (2007a)
81601-1	Lilang Group	LS/l'l, nian-Trias	272°, IS°N	40	056°, 15°	323°, 14°	187°, 71°	-4.3		-263.00	Ll'S		Zanskar VaUey-Tsarap River	

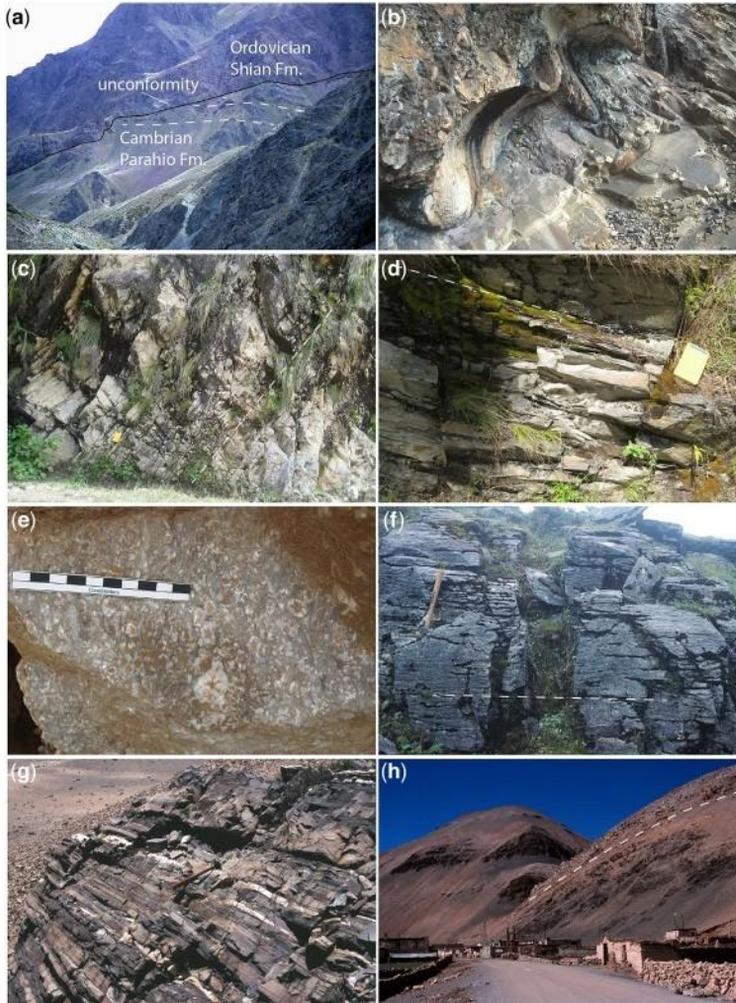
(Continued)

Table 2. Continued.

Sample	Rock unit	Calcite type/age	Orientation	Grains (n=)	$e_x$	$e_y$	$e_z$	$s_x$ (%)	NEV (%)	$tq$ (bars)	Interpreted fabric	Early Paleozoic inferred thrust	Late Paleozoic inferred thrust	Location	C. Orient
												Transport direction	Transport direction		
CARB2	Lipiak Formation	LS/Carboniferous	354°, 37°E	43	090°, 5°	210°, 80°	359°, 8°	-8.6	10	-190.00	IPS			Zanskar Valley	P. Iulsen <i>et al</i> (2007b)
CAMB2	Kurgiakh Formation	LS/Cambrian	030°, 43°E	40	080°, 6°	180°, 58°	346°, 32°	-4.88	7	-236.00	LPS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		Zanskar VaUey	Paulsen <i>et al</i> (2007a)
CAMB3	Kurgiakh Fonnatkm	LS/Cambrian	047°, 39°S	40	206°, 4°	115°, 18°	309°, 71°	-8.51	17	-269.00	LPS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		Zanskar VaUey	P. Iulsen <i>et al</i> (2007b)
				n=352											
<b>Nepal</b>															
GQ1 (ffiv)	O>andragiri Limestone	LS/Silurian	102°, 86°N	22	126°, 4°	008°, 82°	217°, 7°	-1.1	11	-155.00	LPS			Godovari Valley	
GQ1 (NEV)	O>andragiri Limestone	LS/Silurian	102°, 86°N	18	214°, 6°	118°, 22°	337°, 62°	-1.2	100	-145.00	LNS			Godovari Valley	
BEi	Bhaisni Marble	MBL/ Neoproterozoic?	294°, 69°N	22	012°, 29°	194°, 61°	103°, 7°	-1.3		-193.00	LPS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		<b>Bhaisni</b>	
MU1	Marku Limestone	MBL/ Neoproterozoic?	314°, 47°N	25	110°, 57°	239°, 23°	339°, 24°	-3.1	22	-242.00	LPS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		Godovari Valley	C. I. (2007)
MU2	Marku Limestone	MBL/ Neoproterozoic?	125°, 38°N	1.6	344°, 82°	18°, 8°	091°, 2°	-1.9		-180.00	LNS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		Godovari Valley	...
				n= 113											
<b>Tibet</b>															
N34		LS/Pennian	100°, 34°N	1.6	005°, 30°	104°, 14°	216°, 56°	-1.9	17	-165.00	LPS			Nyalam	;-
N21	Chiatsun Groop	LS/Ordovician	253°, 30°N	23	213°, 43°	338°, 32°	089°, 31°	-1.1	17	-189.00	LNS			Nyalam	
N20	Chiatsun Groop	LS/Ordovician	253°, 30°N	30	192°, 17°	076°, 43°	298°, 43°	-1.3	21	-167.00	LNS			Nyalam	
N19	Chiatsun Groop	LS/Ordovician	109°, 49°N	1.6	036°, 18°	238°, 72°	128°, 6°	-3.2	16	-198.00	LPS			Nyalam	
NS	NorthCol Formation	MBL/Cambrian	238°, 57°N	35	158°, 34°	056°, 17°	304°, 51°	-1.1	5	-174.00	LNS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		Nyalam	
				n= 140											
<b>Bhutan</b>															
WL9 9 02 (ffiv)	WochiLa Formation	LS/Ordovician-Situvian	252°, 6°N	42	058°, 2°	152°, 49°	31.6°, 41°	-2.2	0	-202.00	LPS			Black Mountain	
WL9 9 02 (NEV)	WochiLa Formation	LS/Ordovician-Situvian	252°, 6°N	30	324°, 32°	156°, 58°	056°, 4°	-1.3	100	-191.00	LPS			Black Mountain	
PLA	PeleLa Groop	MBL/ Ordovician-Silurian?	025°, 9°S	77	0860. 250	066°, 47°	2930. 330	-1.7	0	-210.00	LPS			Black Mountain	
?:13.74	Quamite Fonnat.K>n	MBL/upper Cambrian?	<b>Horizontal</b>	41	082°, 19°	350°, 7°	242°, 69°	-1.1	11	-181.00	LPS	220° (Kurgiakh Orogen)		Black Mountain	
				n= 140											
				Total: 2488											

Key: ACF, auto-correlation function (finite strain); LPS, layer-parallel shonening; LNS, layer-normal shonening; VPS, vein-parallel shonening; VNS, vein-normal shonening; CNS, clast-normal shonening (Dwyka clasts).

## The amalgamation of Gondwana



**Fig. 6.** Field photographs showing Himalayan sections. (a) Angular unconformity separating the Cambrian Parahio Formation and the overlying Onioivician Shian (previously referred to as the Thango Formation) in Parahio Valley, India. (b) Oose-up showing scours in the Parahio Formation (below) along the unconformity in (a). (c) Dipping Neoproterozoic Bhaisni Marble at Bhaisni [sic], Nepal. (d) Dipping Marlen Limestone in Godovari Valley, Nepal. (e) Onioivician-Silurian(?) Chandragiri Limestone in Godovari Valley, Nepal. (f) Onioivician-Silurian(?) carbonates at Black Mountain, Bhutan. (g) Dipping Cambrian carbonate (white) interbedded with siliciclastic rocks near Nyalam, Tibet. (h) Dipping upper Paleozoic (Mississippian) stratigraphic succession near Nyalam, Tibet

is estimated to constitute half of the 13 000 m-thick stratigraphic succession, is characterized by a diverse middle Cambrian fauna (Craddock and Webers 1964; Webers *et al.* 1992), and includes the Upper Cambrian Minaret Formation Limestone (c. 500 m) and calcite veins. The classic Gondwana section unconformably overlies the Cambrian section (Duebendorfer and Rees 1998). Structural studies reveal east-vergent folding along west-dipping thrusts with a well-developed axial-planar cleavage and local, top-to-the-east kinematic indicators (Fig. 7c)

(Craddock *et al.* 1992; Sporli and Craddock 1992; Curtis 1998; Curtis *et al.* 1999; Craddock *et al.* 2017b). Our calcite strain results were presented in Craddock *et al.* (2017a, 2019b, fig. 4) and include six Minaret Limestone samples with LPS fabrics; three of the limestones have twinning strain overprints (two LNS fabrics and one LPS fabric). Two calcite veins record orange-parallel horizontal shortening (VPS fabric); one vein has a strain overprint that records vertical shortening. One sample was striated fault gouge calcite sampled along a thrust fault that

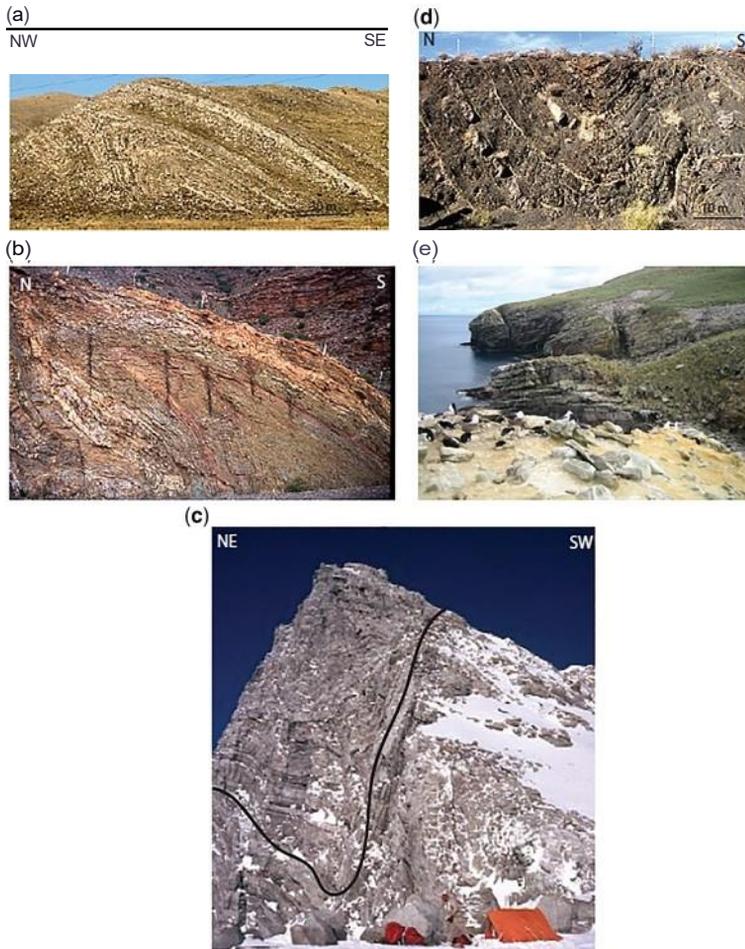
J. Craddock *et al*

Fig. 7. Field photographs of Gondwanide deformation. (a)-(c) Asymmetrical folds in Devonian quartzites in the Ventana Cape (fence posts are for scale) and Ellsworth Mountains, folds in the northern Cape belt (d: see Craddock *et al* 2007) and dipping Devonian quartzites, Falkland Islands (e: the penguins are for scale).

offsets both the Minaret Limestone and a breccia body, and is presumed to be related to Gondwanide deformation. Summary plots of the Ross and Gondwanide deformation for the Ellsworth Mountains are provided (Fig. 13).

#### *Pensacola Range, Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica*

The Pensacola Mountains are the southern extension of the Ellsworth Mountains Block (Fig. 4) in the Transantarctic Mountains, and include lower Paleozoic strata that are gently folded (east vergence) and weakly cleaved (Millar and Storey 1995; Stump 1995; Storey *et al.* 1996; Curtiset al. 2004). Six Cambrian Nelson Limestone samples were analysed: two

are limestone, one is a conglomerate (calcite cement matrix) and three are veins of different orientations (Fig. 14). One limestone preserves a SE-plunging LPS shortening strain, whereas the other sample preserves a north-plunging LNS shortening strain. The conglomerate preserves a subvertical shortening strain (51° plunge) with a twinning strain overprint that plunges 63° and trends 090° away from the primary (PEV) shortening strain. Vein P1 records a subhorizontal shortening strain orientated to the NE with a twinning strain overprint (PI-NEV) orientated to the SW, with the extension and intermediate strain axes reversed. Vein P5 is orientated approximately east-west with a 79°S dip and records layer-parallel, east-west shortening strain with no overprint. Vein P3 (335°, 90°) records a vertical shortening strain

## The amalgamation of Gondwana

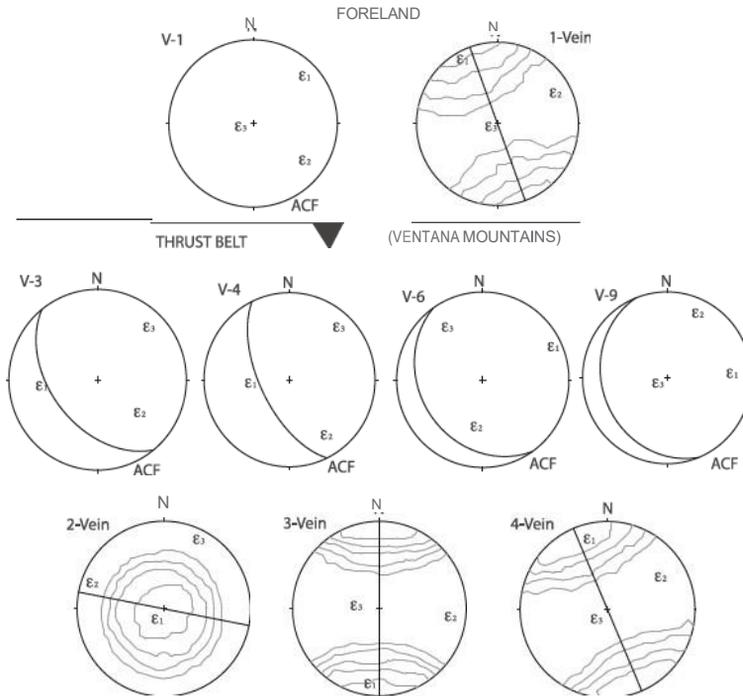


Fig. 8. Strain data for the Ventana Mountains and foreland, Argentina. Finite strains (ACF method) are from quartzites, and calcite twinning strains are from veins (see Table 2). Key:  $\epsilon_1$ , shortening axis;  $\epsilon_2$ , intermediate axis;  $\epsilon_3$ , extension axis with compression axes contoured for the twinning data

with no overprint. The limestone and conglomerate LPS fabrics are consistent, with Ross shortening at a high angle to the structural grain with a vertical overprint. The younger vein fabrics record vein-parallel shortening (VPS) but in a myriad of orientations.

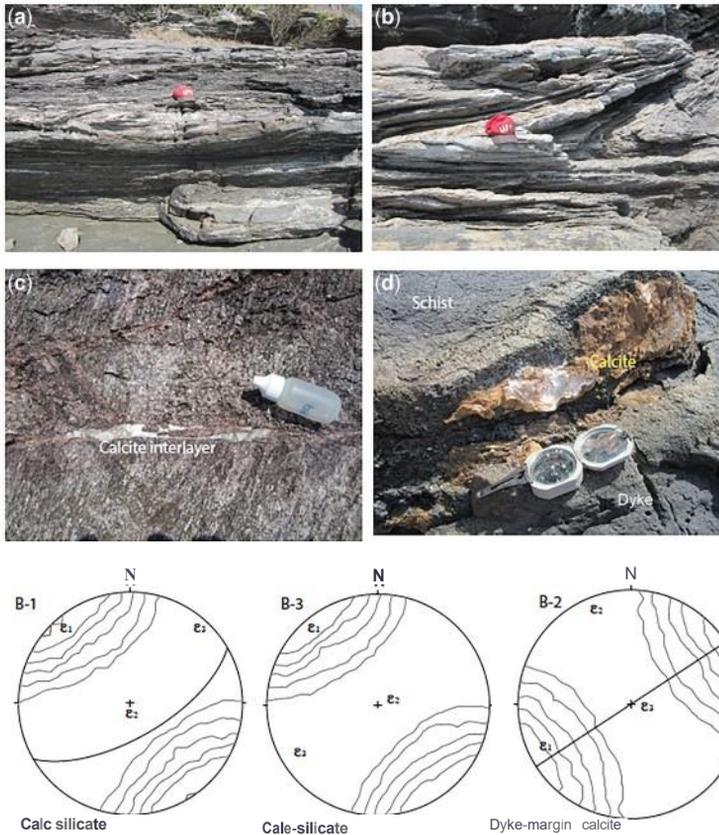
#### Shackleton Glacier, Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica

The Cambrian Liv Group in the Queen Maud Mountain sector of the Transantarctic Mountains includes subgreenschist- to amphibolite-facies metasedimentary and metavolcanic rocks that exhibit varying degrees of folding, axial-planar cleavage development and local shear-zone development. The Liv Group and associated intrusive rocks are separated, unconformably, from the flat-lying Devonian-Permian Beacon Supergroup above (Fig. 15). Our sample (LUB2A) comes from the Cambrian Taylor Formation of the Liv Group (Stump 1982, 1986, 1995; Paulsen *et al.* 2018) at Lubbock Ridge along the Shackleton Glacier, where east-dipping metamorphosed limestone (marble) is interbedded within siliciclastic metasedimentary rocks (Fig. 4). Detrital, volcanic and intrusive U-Pb zircon ages constrain folding to have taken place between *c.* 522 and 496 Ma at this locality (Paulsen *et al.* 2021). Calcite

twins within sample LUB2A preserve horizontal east-west LNS at a high angle to the north-south fold axes, and cleavage of the Ross orogen with a single compression axis maxima indicates a simple twinning record (Fig. 16).

#### Nimrod Glacier, Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica

The Cambrian Byrd Group in the Transantarctic Mountains includes the Shackleton Limestone, which is broadly equivalent to the Cambrian Nelson Limestone and Liv Group found in the Pensacola Range (Stump 1992). The Byrd Group was deformed in the Cambrian-Ordovician during the Ross Orogeny (Myrow *et al.* 2002; Goodge *et al.* 2004a, b; Paulsen *et al.* 2007b, 2008). It rests unconformably below the younger, flat-lying Devonian-Permian Beacon Supergroup (Fig. 15) (Isbell 1999). Our samples come from the Nimrod Glacier area (Fig. 4) and include one limestone and two cross-cutting veins. Sample JC-5 is from a flat-lying limestone and preserves a twinning shortening strain parallel (north-south) to the mountain range. Vein JC-3 (038°, 90°) records a horizontal shortening strain normal to the vein (VNS fabric) and at an



**Fig. 9.** (a)–(c) Field photographs from the Cabo Frio Terrane, Buzios orogen, Brazil. Calc-silicate layers are boudinaged and subsequently folded in recumbent structures with north-south axes. (d) Calcite vein marginal to a NE-SW Cretaceous dyke. Lower-hemisphere projections of calcite strain data with principal strain axes and contoured compression axes (see Table 2).

acute angle to the mountain range. Vein JC-4 ( $031^{\circ}$ ,  $71^{\circ}$ SE) records a horizontal shortening strain  $45^{\circ}$  to the vein (VNS) and normal to the shortening strain in vein JC-3 (Fig. 16).

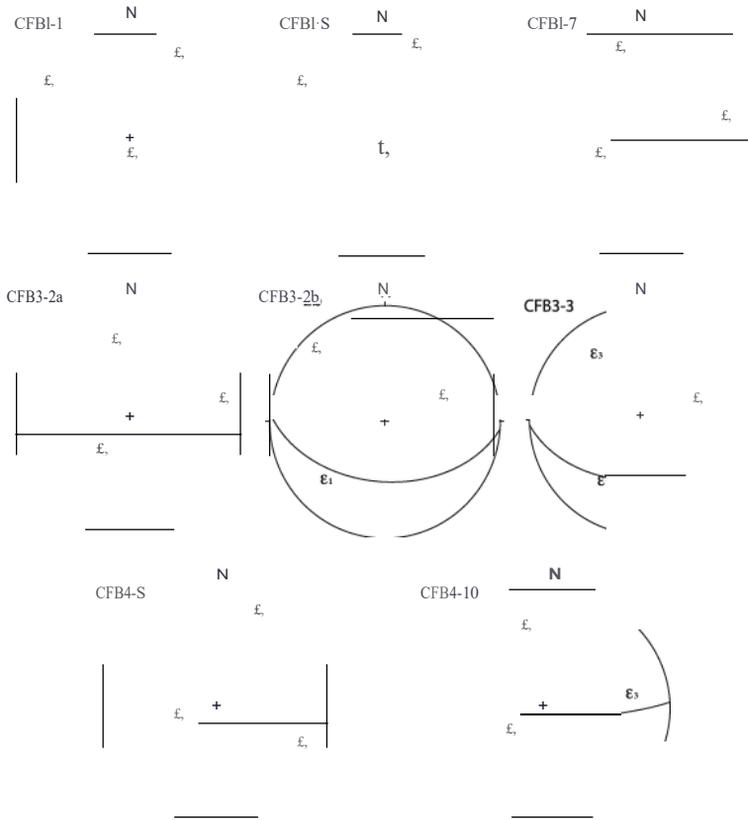
### Tasmania

One limestone sample was collected from the Permian Parmeener Formation on Maria Island and includes a sampled calcite vein (Fig. 4). The limestone and vein ( $092^{\circ}, 90^{\circ}$ ) both record a subhorizontal shortening strain in the inferred east-west direction of Gondwanide orogenic shortening (Fig. 16).

The upper Neoproterozoic-Cambrian Hairnanta Group in the Zaskar and Spiti sectors of the NW Himalaya of India (Fig. 5) includes low-grade (diagenetic to low-epizone facies) interbedded sandstone

and limestone (Dezes 1999; Wiesmayr and Grasmann 2002; Myrow *et al.* 2006a, b). The Haimanta Group and associated 552–479 Ma intrusive rocks are separated, unconformably, from an Ordovician conglomerate by an angular unconformity attributed to uplift and exhumation associated with the Kurgakh Orogeny (Fig. 6a, b) (Hayden 1904; Garzanti *et al.* 1986; Dezes 1999; Miller *et al.* 2001; Wiesmayr and Grasmann 2002; Myrow *et al.* 2006a, b, 2016). The conglomerate, in turn, is succeeded by an Ordovician-Cretaceous sedimentary succession that includes Early Permian Panjal Traps and unconformities associated with rifting and the formation of the Neo-Tethys Ocean (Draganits *et al.* 2005). The entire succession has been deformed by NW-SE-trending, SW-vergent folds, associated cleavage and thrusts formed during the Cenozoic evolution of the Eohimalayan Tethyan fold-thrust belt (Wiesmayr and Grasmann 2002). Paulsen *et al.* (2007a) reported calcite twinning strain results for a study

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**Fig. 10.** Lower-hemisphere projections of finite-strain (ACF: see Table 2) data for the Cape Fold Belt Great circles are bedding;  $e_1$ , shortening axis;  $e_2$ , intermediate axis;  $e_3$ , extension axis.

of Cambrian ( $n = 3$ ) and Carboniferous ( $n = 2$ ) limestone samples collected across the Cambrian-Ordovician Kurgakh unconformity in both the Spiti and Zaskar areas in order to compare strain patterns associated with early Paleozoic and Cenozoic orogenesis. Cambrian samples yield NE-SW to east-west LPS fabrics that are roughly parallel to LPS fabrics in Carboniferous rocks (Fig. 17). These shortening strains are similar in orientation to four new calcite twin strain analyses reported here that include a Permian-Triassic Lilang Group limestone from Zaskar (sample 81601-1), a sheared recrystallized limestone of possible Cretaceous age from Gopi Chand Ka Mahal in the lesser Himalaya (sample GKM-4) and two Ediacaran limestone samples collected from soft-sedimentary folds in the Bilara Formation (Chakraborty *et al.* 2019) in the Marwar Basin of the Indian Shield (samples BL-1 and BL-3) (Fig. 5). The Himalayan orogenic belt samples and Indian Shield sample BL-3 yielded NE-SW LPS fabrics, whereas shield sample BL-1 yielded a NE-SW LNS strain plunging  $32^\circ$  towards  $224^\circ$  (Fig. 17). Three of these samples (81601,

GKM-4 and BL-1) show single compression axis maxima, indicating a simple twinning record; however, GKM-4 possesses a limited range of c-axis orientations and should therefore be viewed with some caution. Sample BL-3 shows bimodal compression axis maxima, indicating a complex twinning history.

### Nepal

Rocks of the Kathmandu Klippe in the Nepalese Himalaya (Fig. 5) include upper Neoproterozoic-middle Paleozoic strata that were thrust southwards over Proterozoic siliciclastic rocks of the Lesser Himalaya and subsequently folded into the NW-SE-trending Kathmandu synform (Gehrels *et al.* 2003, 2006; Cawood *et al.* 2007). The stratigraphic succession of the thrust sheet is divided into two successions that include: (1) schist, marble and quartzite of the Bhimpihedi Group; and (2) unmetamorphosed sandstone, shale and limestone of the Phulchauri Group (Gehrels *et al.* 2006; Cawood *et al.* 2007). Age constraints provided by Th/Pb monazite inclusions in metamorphic garnet, and U-Pb zircon

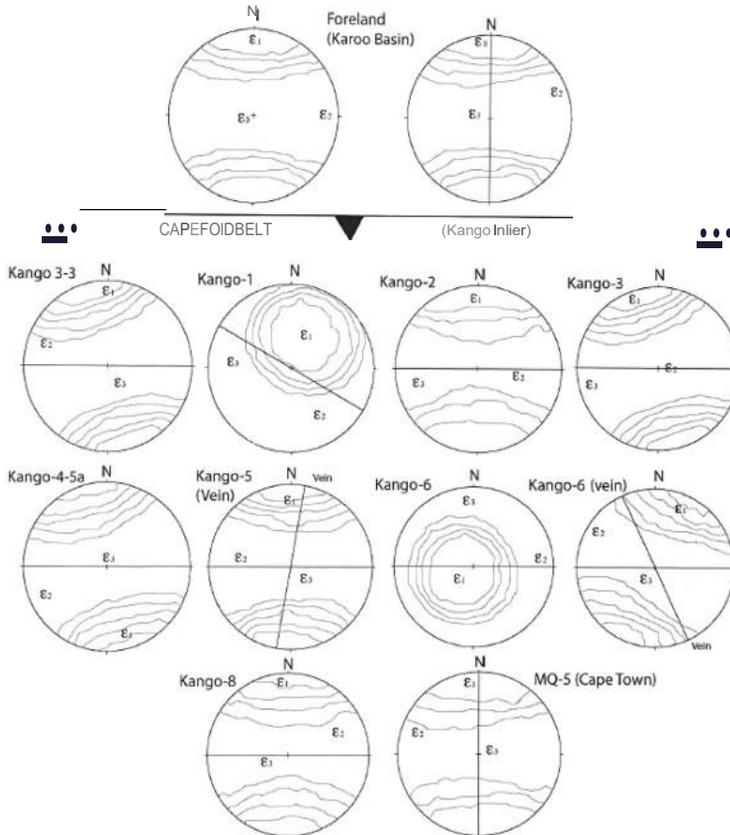


Fig. 11. Lower-hemisphere projections of calcite strain data for the Cape Fold Belt foreland (upper two stereonets; see Craddock *et al.* 2007b), and Cambrian limestones and veins of the Kango Inlier. Key: Great circles are bedding or vein orientations;  $E_1$ , shortening axis;  $E_2$ , intermediate axis;  $E_3$ , extension axis.

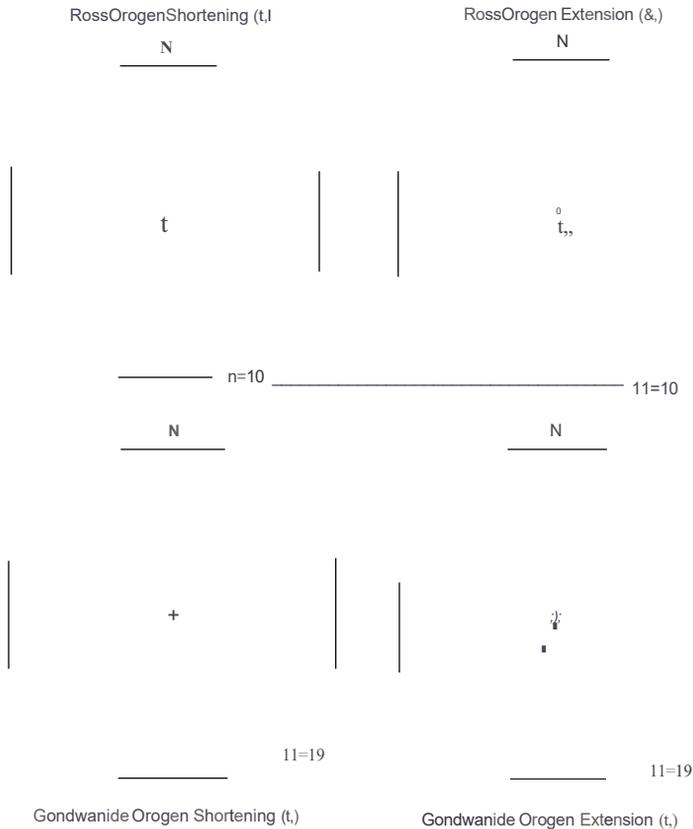
ages for intrusions that discordantly cross-cut metamorphic fabrics, constrain Kurgiak deformation and metamorphism to *c.* 484–473 Ma (Myrow *et al.* 2016; see also Gehrels *et al.* 2006). Metamorphic garnets also yield 29–25 Ma Th/Pb monazite ages attributed to a regional metamorphic overprint during Cenozoic tectonic loading (Gehrels *et al.* 2006). Metamorphic grades vary from kyanite to no higher than biotite facies from north to south, respectively, across the area (Cawood *et al.* 2007). Our samples include three foliated marbles from the Bhimpihedi Group in the south and one Phulchauki Group limestone from the Godavari quarry in the central part of the klippe (Pas *et al.* 2011) (Fig. 6c–e). Two of the three Neoproterozoic samples (BE1 and MU2) have maximum shortening axes that lie off the bedding great circle (LNS; Fig. 18). Both samples show single compression axis maxima, indicating a simple twinning record. The third sample (MUI) has a maximum shortening axis that lies near the bedding great circle (LPS) but

shows bimodal compression axis maxima, indicating a complex twinning history. The Silurian sample (GQ1) yielded high negative expected values (40%) indicating non-coaxial twinning strains. Positive expected values yield a maximum shortening axis that lies within the compression axis maxima near the bedding great circle (LPS), whereas negative expected values yield a maximum shortening axis that lies within the compression axis maxima at a high angle to bedding (LNS).

### Tibet

The upper Neoproterozoic–Cambrian Rouquicun Group in the Nyalam area of the Tibetan Himalaya (Fig. 5) includes foliated Cambrian quartzite, psammitic schist and marble (Fig. 6g) that stratigraphically correlate with the upper Neoproterozoic–Cambrian Haimanta Group in the Spiti and Zaskar areas of the Indian Himalaya (Myrow *et al.* 2009). To the north of Nyalam, the Rouquicun

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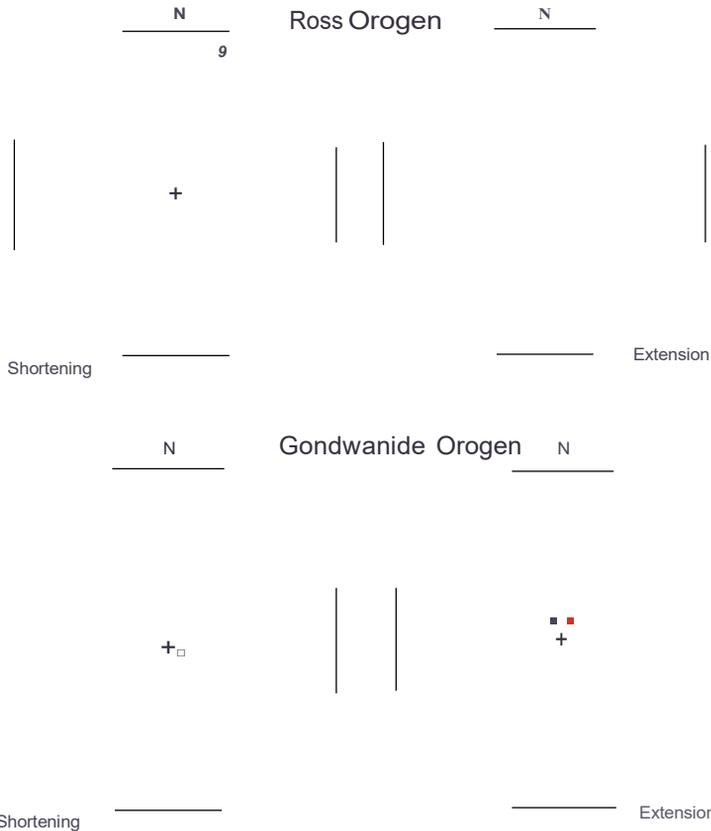
**Fig. 12.** Lower-hemisphere stereonet plots of shortening ( $e_1$ ) and extension axes ( $e_3$ ) for (upper) the Ross (Ordovician) and (lower) Gondwanide (Permian) orogens in the Cape Fold Belt, South Africa. The tectonic transport direction is to the north. Key: (upper) filled circle, limestone; open circle, vein; open square, vein NEV; (lower) filled diamond, foreland (limestone and vein); filled circle, limestone or quartzite; open circle, vein; open square, vein NEV.

Group is juxtaposed against unmetamorphosed Ordovician limestone of the Chiatsum Group, which post-dates the Kurgiakh Orogeny and presently occupies the hanging wall of the South Tibetan Detachment System (STDS; Fig. 6h), a major Cenozoic down-to-the-north normal fault (Burchiel *et al.* 1992; Wang *et al.* 2006). Cambrian rocks of the Rouquicun Group were metamorphosed and deformed during Cenozoic tectonic burial and shearing along the STDS (Wang *et al.* 2015). We nevertheless analysed a sample of Rouquicun Group marble, given the evidence that some metamorphism within the Greater Himalaya is likely to have occurred earlier during the Kurgiakh Orogeny (Gehrels *et al.* 2006). Our samples come from the area where Myrow *et al.* (2009) reported Cambrian detrital zircon ages from the Rouquicun Group and include three unmetamorphosed Ordovician limestone samples from the hanging wall of the STDS, as well as a Permian limestone from an area north of Mount Everest/Chomolungma. The Cambrian and

Ordovician rocks stratigraphically correlate with the North Col Formation and Ordovician rocks on Mount Everest/Chomolungma (Myrow *et al.* 2009). The Cambrian sample (N8) and two of the Ordovician samples (N20 and N21) yield maximum shortening axes that lie at a high angle to the bedding great circles (LNS; Fig. 18). The other Ordovician sample (N19) and Permian sample (N34) yield maximum shortening axes that lie near to the bedding great circles (LPS). All but one of the samples (N19) show single compression axis maxima that generally coincide with the maximum shortening axes, indicating simple twinning records; N19 shows a maximum shortening axis that lies away from the compression axis maxima, suggesting a more complex twinning record.

### Bhutan

Rocks within klippe in the Bhutan Himalaya (Fig. 5) include Cambrian-Jurassic strata that have been

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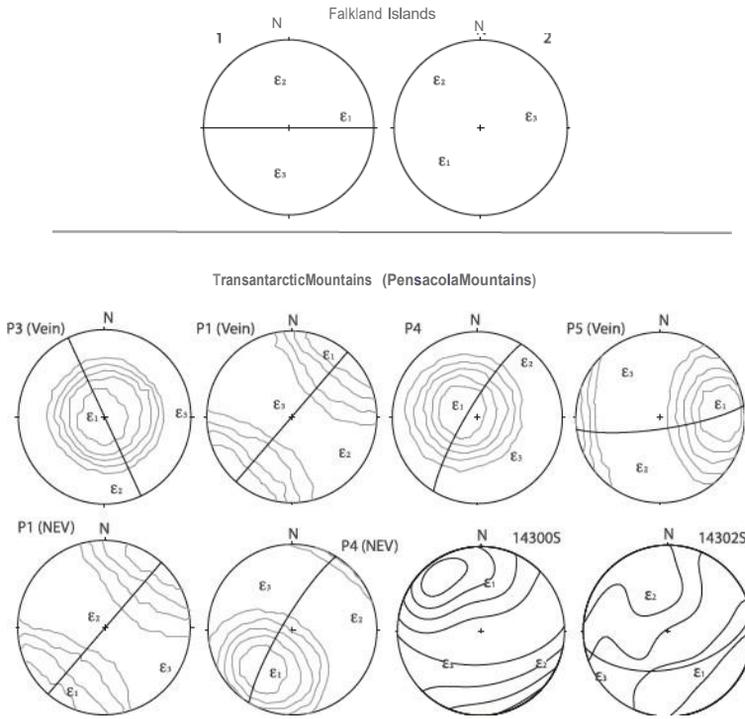
**Fig. 13.** Lower-hemisphere projections of (left) shortening and (right) extension axes for calcite twinning strain data from the Heritage Range, Ellsworth Mountains, Antarctica (see Table 2) (see Craddock *et al.* 2017b). Key: filled circle, limestone; open circle, vein; red circle, limestone (NEV); open square, vein (NEV).

emplaced on metamorphic rocks of the Greater Himalaya by north-directed movement along the STDS (Long *et al.* 2011). Our samples come from the Tang Chu Klippe (Hughes *et al.* 2011) and include one recrystallized Cambrian limestone that predates the Kurgakh Orogeny. We also analysed two recrystallized Ordovician-Silurian limestone samples of the Wachi La Formation, which post-date this orogeny (Fig. 6t). The Cambrian sample (273.74) and Ordovician-Silurian sample (PLJ) yield maximum shortening axes that lie near the bedding great circles (LPS; Fig. 18). Both samples show single compression axis maxima indicating a simple twinning record. Sample WL9902 (Ordovician-Silurian) yielded high negative expected values (40%), indicating a non-coaxial twinning record. Separate analyses of positive and negative expected values yield maximum shortening axes that lie within the compression axis maxima near the bedding great circle (LPS), although the NEV population yields bimodal compression axis maxima that indicate a complex twinning history.

## Discussion

Late Neoproterozoic-early Paleozoic deformation associated with the final assembly of Gondwana varied in both space and time. This deformation is preserved as a complicated pattern of shortening axes and fabrics (Figs 19 & 20), a possible result of spatio-temporal variations in stress regimes (Table 2) along the various convergent boundaries involved in the construction of Gondwana. Early Paleozoic differential stress magnitudes are low, so projecting regional stress-strain fields over the timespan of the orogeny is speculative (Fig. 21). The classic Gondwana sedimentary sequence (du Toit 1937; Frakes and Crowell 1967, 1969; Crowell 1978; Craddock 1982; Craddock *et al.* 2019a) was deformed during the late Paleozoic along a convergent, then dextral, transcurrent margin that was coeval with the Gondwana-Laurussia collision, recorded as the Variscan-Alleghenian-Atlas orogen. Gondwanide orogen differential stresses were higher than Ross orogen stresses, and the Gondwanide orogen is dominated

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**Fig. 14.** Lower-hemisphere projections of (upper) finite-strain (Falkland Islands) and (lower) calcite-strain (Cambrian Nelson Limestone and veins, Pensacola Mountains) data. See Table 2. Key: great circles are bedding or vein orientations;  $\sigma_1$ , shortening axis;  $\sigma_2$ , intermediate axis;  $\sigma_3$ , extension axis.

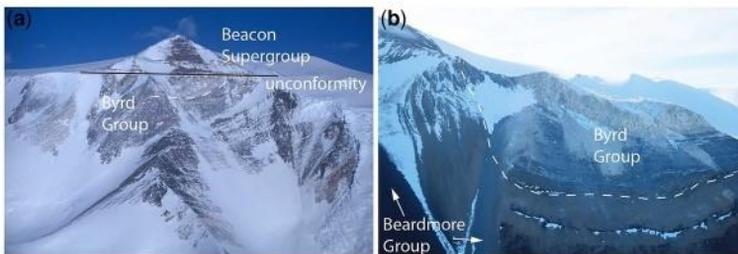
by LPS fabrics that can be projected from plate boundary to plate boundary across Pangaea (Fig. 22).

#### Early Paleozoic orogenic patterns

Most of the sample sites from early Paleozoic orogenic belts lack a contemporaneous, stable cratonic strain site to compare to allochthonous rocks in the adjacent orogenic belt (see below), so our local tectonic transport direction plots (Fig. 20) are referenced to fold axes and fault kinematic data. The

c. 540 Ma Ribiera orogen represents the oldest sample site within our dataset and is the only site from interior Gondwana. The calcite in these high-grade calc-silicates preserves horizontal shortening strain normal to the ENE-trending local margin and parallel to the fault kinematic vectors, with horizontal extension parallel to the inferred margin (Fig. 20b).

Along Gondwana's southern margin, twinning fabrics are more complicated (Fig. 20c), and may reflect poorly understood temporal changes in shortening intensities and directions associated with



**Fig. 15.** Field photographs showing Ross deformation. (a) Angular unconformity separating deformed Shackleton Limestone (Byrd Group; below) and the overlying undeformed Devonian-Jurassic Beacon Supergroup in the central Transantarctic Mountains. (b) Syncline of Shackleton Limestone (Byrd Group) overlying the dark-coloured Beardmore Group at the Palisades in the Nimrod Glacier area.



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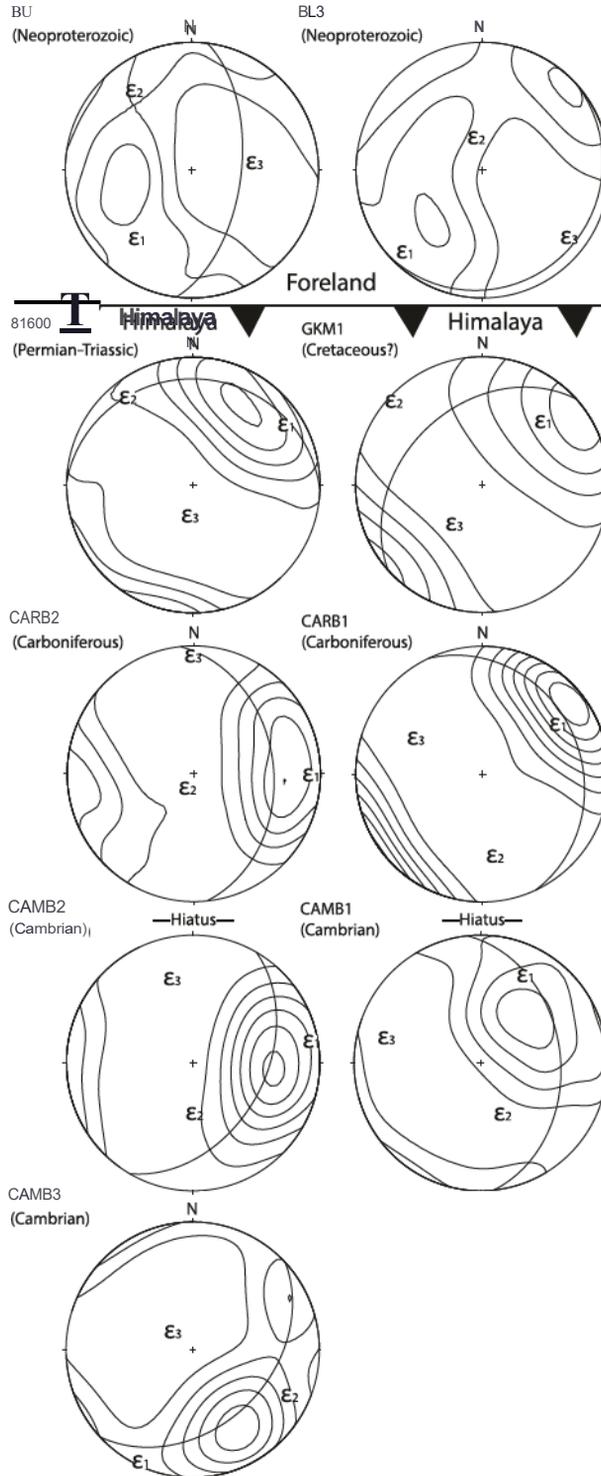


Fig. 17. Lower-hemisphere projections of calcite strain data from India (see Table 2). 'Hiatus' marks the relative location of the unconformity associated with the Kurgikh Orogeny.

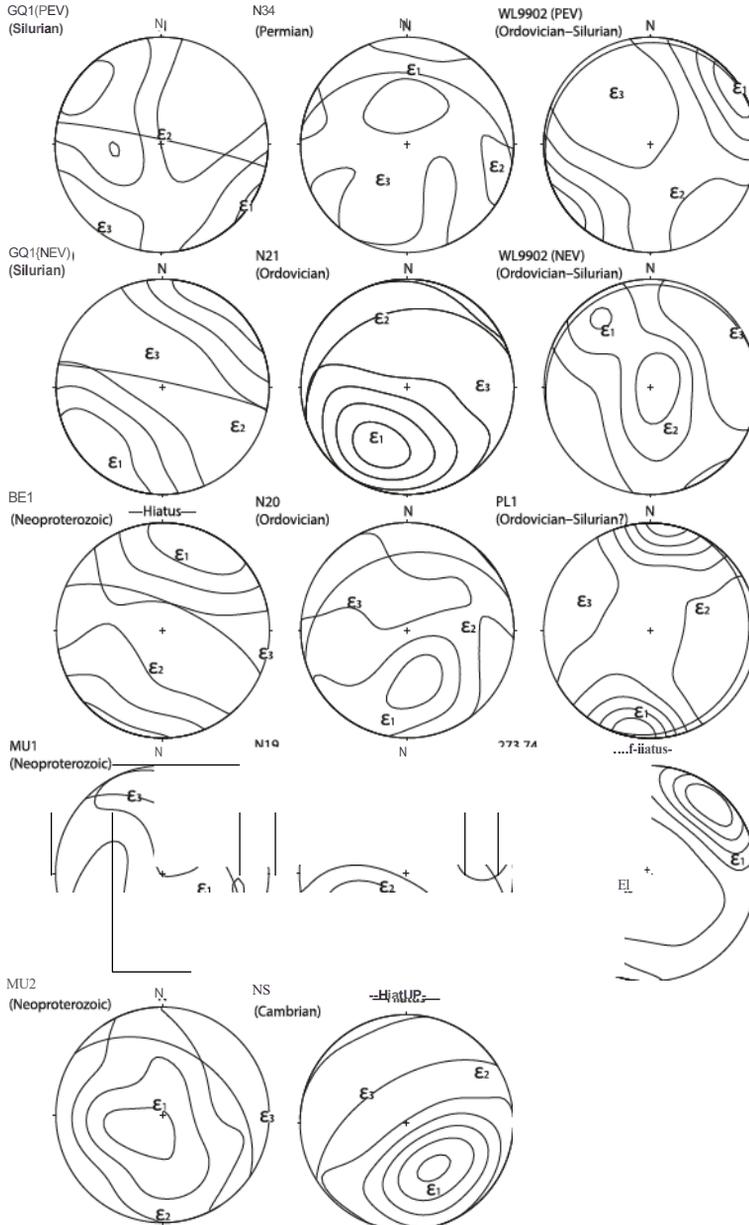
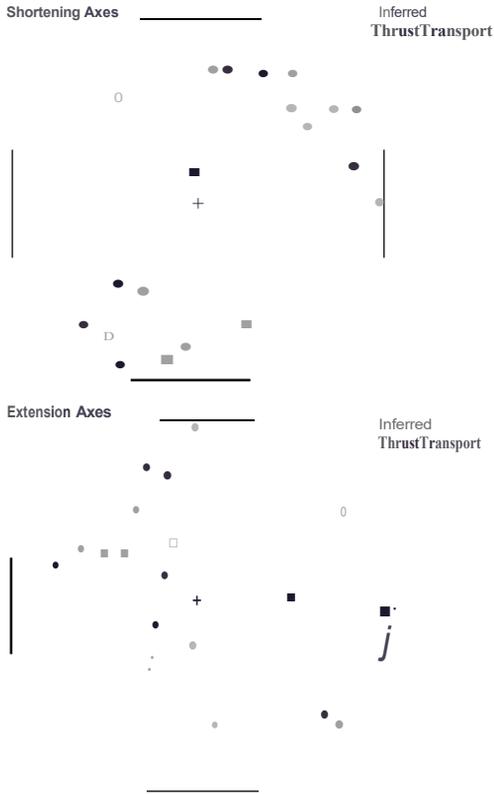
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Fig. 18. Lower-hemisphere projections of calcite strain data from Nepal, Tibet and Bhulan (see Table 2). 'Hiatus' marks the relative location of the unconformity associated with the Kurgiakh Orogeny.

Cambrian limestone was deposited in a half-graben, remained undeformed until the end of the Permian and was then rotated to vertical and deformed by north-south horizontal Gondwanide shortening, again without clockwise rotation or any nappes-related vertical shortening overprint (except for sample Kango-6).

In the Ellsworth Mountains, early mapping has indicated that Cambrian deformation was weak (Craddock 1969), and that the main phase of deformation was related to NW-trending folding associated with the upper Paleozoic Gondwanide orogen. Duebendorfer and Rees (1998) argued that Cambrian deformation is expressed as an angular unconformity

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**Fig. 19.** Lower-hemisphere projections of strain data (upper: shortening axes; lower: extension axes) (see Table 2) for twinning data by fabric interpretation of rocks involved in the Cenozoic Himalayan orogen (and foreland;  $n = 13$ ; grey symbols) and the ancestral late Cambrian-early Ordovician Kurgakh orogen ( $n = 10$ ; black symbols). Key: filled circle, LPS; open circle, LPS (NEV); filled square, LNS; open square, LNS (NEV).

separating Cambrian and Ordovician rocks, as well as by local refolded folds and a crenulation cleavage. However, other authors have rejected this idea and have, instead, argued that Ross deformation is absent and that Cambrian deposition occurred in a continental rift basin along the margin (Curtis 2001). There are no strain data for Devonian-Penninian Gondwana strata overlying the Cambrian-Ordovician unconformity. However, our data from the Cambrian section suggest shortening at a high angle to NW-trending folds and axial-planar cleavages found in the Gondwana succession, suggesting that the twinning fabrics may reflect Gondwanide shortening (Craddock *et al.* 2017c) or an earlier coaxial Cambrian shortening event; a possibility that is consistent with Type 3 fold interference patterns reported from Cambrian rocks in the area (Duebendorfer and Rees 1998).

In the Pensacola Mountains, the main phase of early Paleozoic deformation associated with the Ross Orogeny occurred prior to deposition of the late middle Cambrian Nelson Limestone, which unconformably overlies highly deformed late Neoproterozoic-Cambrian greywacke of the Hannah Ridge Formation (Curtis *et al.* 2004). These rocks were folded during the late Paleozoic Gondwanide Orogeny but stratigraphic and structural relationships suggest an earlier coaxial shortening episode characterized by gentle late Cambrian-early Ordovician folding of the Nelson Limestone at shallow depths during the tenninal stages of the Ross Orogeny (Storey *et al.* 1996). Our strain data from two Nelson Limestone samples are consistent with LPS orientated at a high angle to the active margin, whereas strains from veins record shortening sub-parallel to NE-trending folds. The origin of this shortening strain is unknown but could be related to Cambrian orogenesis associated with the closure of the Mozambique Ocean recorded in the Shackleton Range *c.* 500 km NE of the Pensacola Mountains (Buggisch and Kleinschmidt 2007).

In the Transantarctic Mountains, early Paleozoic deformation is well expressed by folds and cleavage within Cambrian limestones that are locally metamorphosed and cross-cut by syn- to post-tectonic granitoids (Myrow *et al.* 2002; Goodge *et al.* 2004a, b; Paulsen *et al.* 2007b). The calcite strain data preserve a LNS strain at a high angle to the local structural grain in the Shackleton Glacier area (Paulsen *et al.* 2004). Data from the Nimrod Glacier area record a mix of shortening strains that are orientated oblique to the local NNW trend of folds (Table 2; Fig. 20). One vein collected *c.* 100 km to the west in the Miller and Geologists ranges, where deformation involved a margin-parallel component of displacement, records NW-shortening consistent with top-to-the SE ductile shear fabrics older than 515 Ma (Goodge *et al.* 1993). The north- to NNE-shortening strains recorded in the other Nimrod Glacier samples are consistent with east-trending folds located *c.* 200 km north of our sample sites on the south side of Byrd Glacier.

Along Gondwana's northern margin, Cambrian limestone preserves a mix of LPS and LNS fabrics that plot in a crude NE-SW-orientated, margin-normal girdle (Fig. 19). Our Indian Himalaya samples yield NE-SW to east-west LPS fabrics that are roughly parallel to LPS fabrics in Ediacaran limestone on the Indian Shield, as well as in Carboniferous-Cretaceous carbonate of the Himalayan orogen (Fig. 17), consistent with coaxial shortening implied by parallel early Paleozoic and Cenozoic fold axes found in this sector of the Himalaya (Dezes 1999; Wiesmayr and Grasemann 2002). The diagenetic to low-epizone grade of metamorphism of the Cambrian successions at these localities (Wiesmayr and

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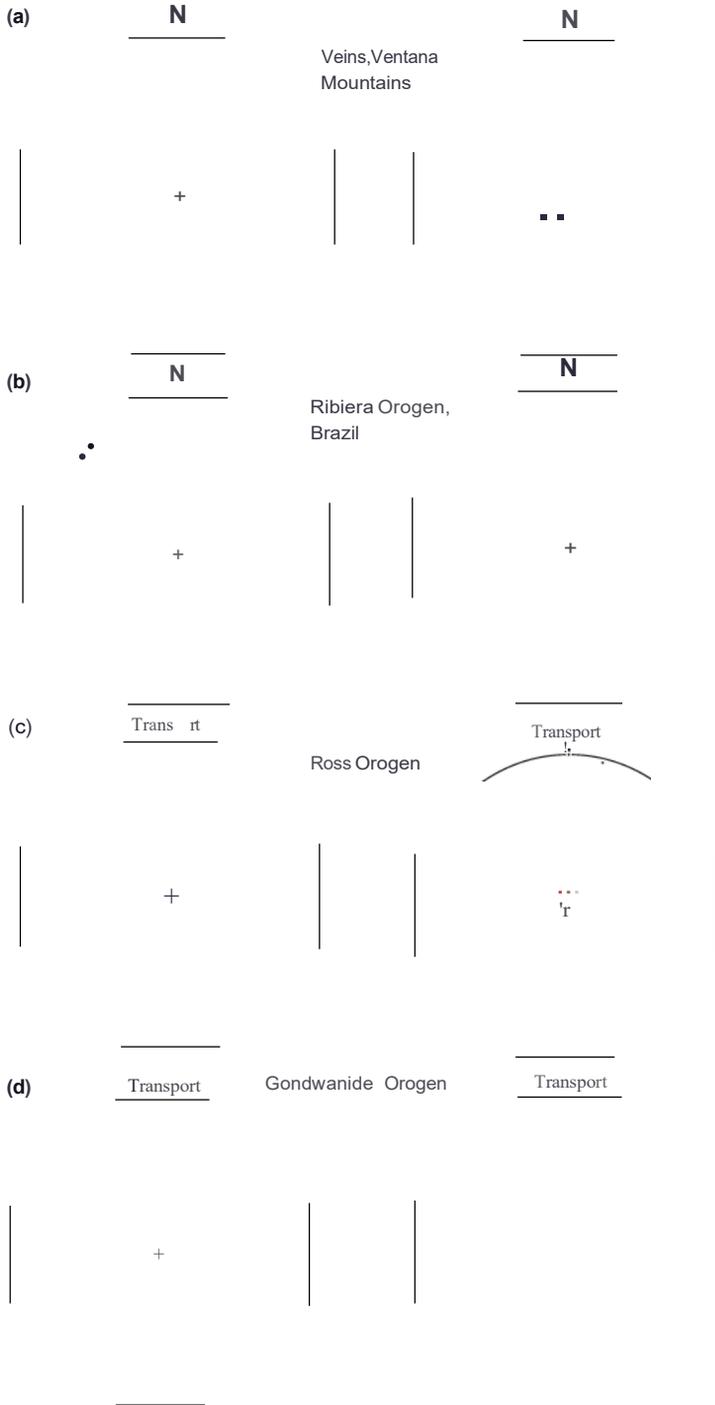
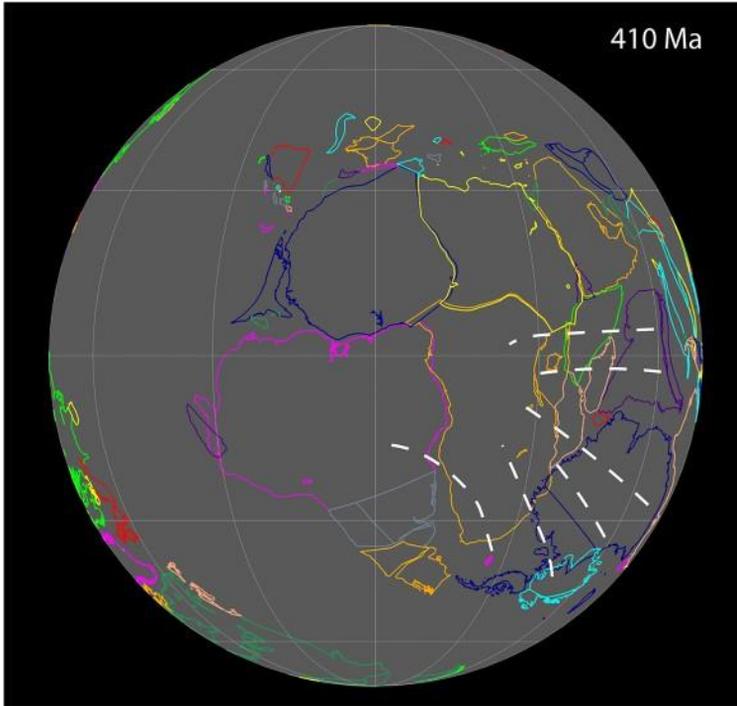


Fig. 20. Lower-hemisphere projections of strain data (table 2) for: (a) anomalous calcite veins in the Ventana Mountains, Argentina; (b) calc-silicates in the 540 Ma Ribeira orogen, Brazil; (c) the early Ordovician Ross orogen; and (d) the Permian Gondwanide orogen. Key: (left) shortening axes; (right) extension axes. Plotted symbols: filled diamond, foreland; filled circle, LS or quartzite; open circle, vein; open square, vein (NEV); open red circle, LS (NEV).

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**Fig. 21.** Tectonic reconstructions of Gondwana following the Terra Australis (Ross: 410 Ma) orogen created by GP!ates (Millier *et al.* 2018). Strain shortening axes are plotted and projected inboard from the margin Ross (Terra Australis) tectonic summary.

Grasemann 2002) suggest that the strains in the Cambrian samples are primary and not overprinted by Himalayan deformation. Our Cambrian samples from areas to the east in the Himalaya show similar strains that are indistinguishable from Cenozoic Himalayan strains recorded in carbonate that post-dates the Kurgakh Orogeny. Cambrian sedimentary successions show markedly higher degrees of metamorphism to the east at our other Himalaya sample sites (Myrow *et al.* 2016). Metamorphism of Himalayan rocks is now recognized to be, at least in part, early Paleozoic in age (Gehrels *et al.* 2006; Palin *et al.* 2018). However, strains within some of our samples are likely to record a Himalayan strain overprint.

In Nepal, the NW-SE LPS fabrics recorded in the Silurian GQI (PEV) and Neoproterozoic MUI samples (Fig. 18) trend sub-parallel to NW-SE-trending Cenozoic fold axes in the Kathmandu Klippe (Gehrels *et al.* 2006). These LPS fabrics may record early layer-parallel shortening prior to folding but are also consistent with Cenozoic range-parallel shortening indicated by transverse folding elsewhere in the orogen (Johnson 1994; Long *et al.* 2011). The shallow NE-SW LNS strains recorded in the GQI

(NEV) and Neoproterozoic BEI samples trend at a high angle to the NW-SE Cenozoic fold axes, as well as a steep NW-SE spaced cleavage that truncates fossil fragments within the GQI sample. These relationships are consistent with twinning due to syn- to post-folding horizontal shortening in these areas. The steep LNS strain recorded in the Neoproterozoic MU2 sample could reflect later tectonic rotation of the syn- to post-folding horizontal shortening record in MUI; however, it is also consistent with twinning during post-folding lithostatic loading due to tectonic or sedimentary burial.

In Tibet, twinning strains recorded in the footwall (metamorphosed) and hanging wall (unmetamorphosed) of the SIDS are different (Fig. 18). The LNS fabric recorded in the metamorphic rocks in the footwall of the STDS by Cambrian sample NS is at a high angle to metamorphic foliation. Twinning within sample NS also records a layer-parallel extensional strain. This relation suggests that twinning may record Cenozoic extension along the detachment. Twinning fabrics recorded in the hanging wall of the SIDS by Ordovician samples N19-21 also yield NW-SE maximum extensional strains. However, the LNS fabrics recorded with these

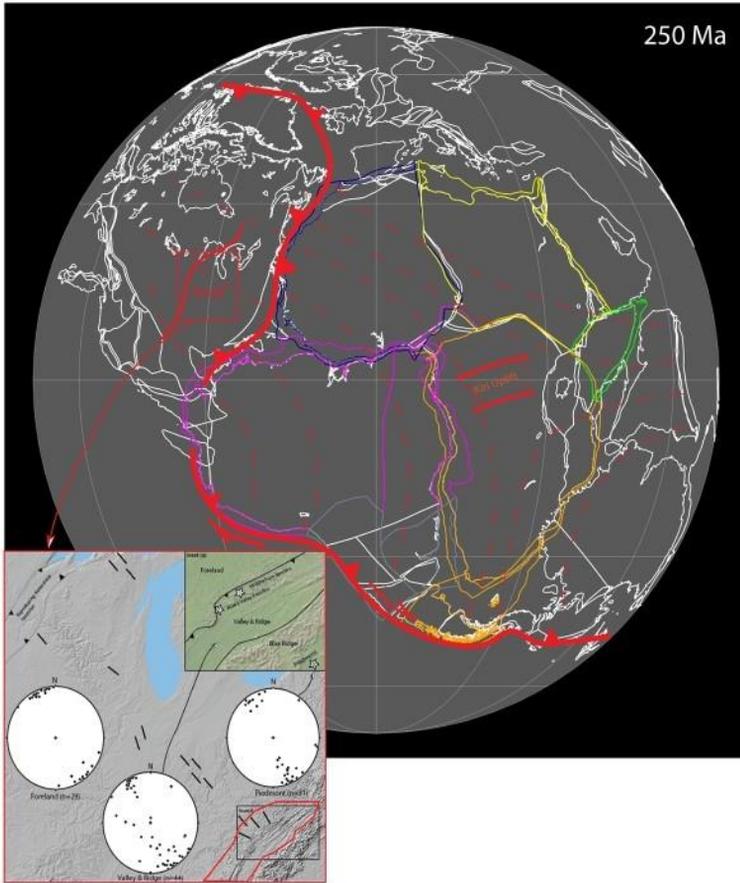


Fig. 22. GPlates reconstruction of Pangea at c. 250 Ma showing the margin-normal shortening strains of the Alleghenian-Atlas orogen (north: see inset from Craddock and Malone 2021) and the shortening strain field continuum across Africa and South America to the dextral boundary on the southern margin of Gondwana.

samples trend at a high angle to SW-vergent, WNW-ESE-trending Cenozoic fold axes within the Tethyan fold-thrust belt (Burchiel *et al.* 1992; Wang *et al.* 2015). Collectively, these relationships may reflect fold-parallel extension with shortening at an oblique angle to bedding due to frictional resistance along a basal thrust or hanging-wall bending strains associated with footwall ramps (Evans and Dunne 1991) that are associated with SW direction thrusting. The north-south LPS fabric recorded in the N34 sample trends at a high angle to the Cenozoic fold axes in the Tethyan fold-thrust belt, consistent with early layer-parallel shortening prior to Cenozoic folding.

In Bhutan, Cambrian and Ordovician-Silurian samples record roughly parallel NE-SW LPS fabrics (Fig. 18), consistent with coaxial early Paleozoic and Cenozoic shortening or, alternatively, with a Cenozoic overprint recorded in the older sample. The NW-SE LPS strain recorded in sample WL9902

(NEV) trends at an oblique angle to the dominant east-west trend of Cenozoic folds in Bhutan but is consistent with range-parallel shortening expressed by transverse NE-SW folding in the area (Long *et al.* 2011).

#### *Gondwanide orogen*

The Gondwanide orogen extends for 2500 km through the Ventana Mountains (west), the Cape Belt, Falkland Islands, Ellsworth Mountains and Tasmania (Figs 1, 3 & 4). This thin-skinned belt includes craton-vergent, asymmetrical folds with an axial-planar cleavage and 30-50% shortening along thrust faults (Fig. 7) (Halbich and Swart 1983; de Wit 1992; Johnston 2000). We report strain results from twinned calcite ( $n = 34$ ; strain overprints are measured with this technique) and finite strains in quartzite samples ( $n = 15$ ; no strain overprints are

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measured with this technique), so characterizing the regional strain patterns mixes different methods. Craddock *et al.* (2007a) reported north-south horizontal shortening LPS strain results from the southernmost Karoo Basin in flat-lying Permian limestone (triangle symbol in Fig. 18). We use this result as our reference for Gondwana shortening across the Cape Belt, which is very different from the synfolding, bedding-parallel calcite filling in the nearby Permian Prince Albert Formation shale that records rotation of shortening strain axes to the east through the fold axes. The finite strains in quartzite samples all preserve a layer-parallel shortening strain that is rotated clockwise from the stable LPS fabric in the foreland. The calcite strain patterns include results from limestone, veins and strain overprints preserved in both, all of which plot as a girdle c. 35° clockwise from the north-south horizontal shortening preserved in the Karoo foreland; thus, supporting a dextral component of motion along the Gondwana margin to the south (Fig. 22).

### Strain anomalies

Four vertical calcite veins were analysed in the Ventana Mountains in Argentina (Table 2). Three preserved an approximately north-south horizontal shortening strain fabric (with vertical extension), and the fourth, a horizontal vein, recorded vertical shortening (and east-west extension). None of these veins is dated nor are the strain results similar with any other Gondwanide orogen strains, so perhaps these were veins associated with the Andean orogen (Ramos 1988a, b; Fig. 22).

### Pangaea

Daly *et al.* (1991) were the first to identify a mid-crustal inversion structure - the Kiri uplift - in the centre of a supercontinent (i.e. Gondwana), which offset Permian strata that are overlain by flat-lying Cretaceous rocks, suggesting a far-field structural response to a deformation somewhere along the margin of Africa. Craddock *et al.* (2017b) proposed that this Permian pop-up structure was the result of far-field shortening associated with north-south horizontal Gondwana orogen shortening from the south, SE-directed shortening from the Alleghenian-Atlas collision to the NE or both (Fig. 22). The contribution of horizontal shortening from the Africa-India margin from the east is less clear but curvilinear, horizontal, stress-strain fields are projected across central Africa. The Gondwana orogen differential stress magnitudes were higher (Table 2) than Ross orogen stresses, contributing, with the collisional Alleghenian-Atlas orogen, to the propagation of tectonic stress across Gondwana into Laurussian in the Permian.

## Conclusions

Strain patterns along the southern early Paleowic Gondwana margin are complex, with a wide array of shortening axes, strain fabrics (LPS, LNS, VNS and VPS) and local strain overprints. Tectonic interpretations are limited because there are no strain samples from the stable craton to record contemporaneous deformation and a kinematic reference site; this indicates that Ross-related deformation was local and included intrusion of contemporaneous arc-related plutons. The collisional Buzios orogen preserves sub-horizontal shortening strains parallel to the inferred collisional and tectonic transport direction, although, curiously, with many stacked nappes but no strain overprint. Winning strains in Cambrian carbonates in the Himalaya preserve LPS fabrics parallel to the inferred thrust transport direction of the Kurgakh orogen. Early Paleowic orogenesis along Gondwana's southern margin was regional and episodic, and it is difficult to argue for far-field effects.

The Permian Gondwanide orogen is characterized by a regional LPS fabric and dextral rotation of shortening axes along the southern Gondwana margin, whereas collisional orogens dominated the contemporaneous Appalachian-Caledonide margins as Pangaea amalgamated. Arc rocks are absent along the dextral Gondwana and the collisional Appalachian-Caledonide margins. Far-field effects of these contemporaneous orogens are supported by LPS fabrics 2000-3000 km inboard in foreland settings and crystalline-cored inversion of the Kiri uplift in central Africa and the Keweenaw-Kapuskasi nguplift in central North America (Craddock and van der Pluijm 1989; Craddock *et al.* 1993, 2017a).

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