

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

Tectonics of the Greenlandic Caledonides

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The Caledonian orogen in northeastern Greenland is a 1200 km long, west-vergent nappe pile. It has traditionally been viewed as the upper plate of a west-dipping subduction zone which finally consumed the Baltic continental margin now exposed in Scandinavia. However, amount of shortening and grade of metammorphism clearly point towards an independent east-dipping subduction zone creating the tectonic architecture in



Greenland. Metamorphic ages leave us with the puzzling conclusion that both continental margins of the Caledonian orogen were apparently subducted at about the same time in opposite directions.

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