



中国科学技术大学
University of Science and Technology of China

用单原子探测方法 识别古老的冰与水

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創寰宇學府
育天下英才

嚴濟慈
一九八八年五月

0.5 升空气含 3×10^{22} 个原子

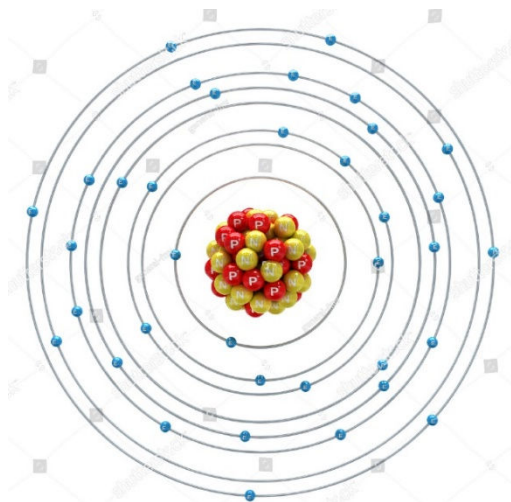
包括 1×10^{15} 个氪-83原子 (^{83}Kr)

包括 1×10^4 个氪-81原子 (^{81}Kr)

NIST SP 966 (September 2003)

氦-83同位素

核稳定



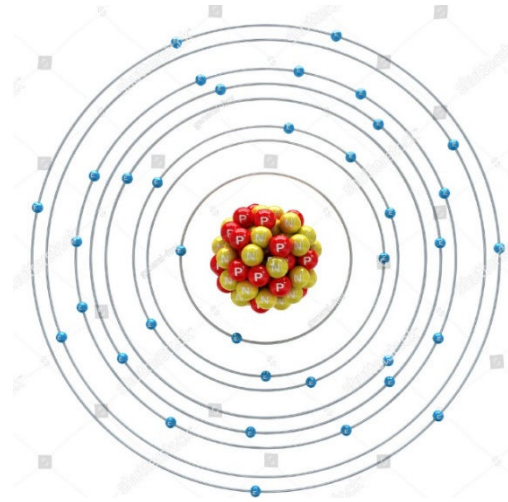
36个电子

核: 36 质子, 47 中子

重量: 83个氢原子

氦-81同位素

核衰变, 半衰期 23万年



36个电子

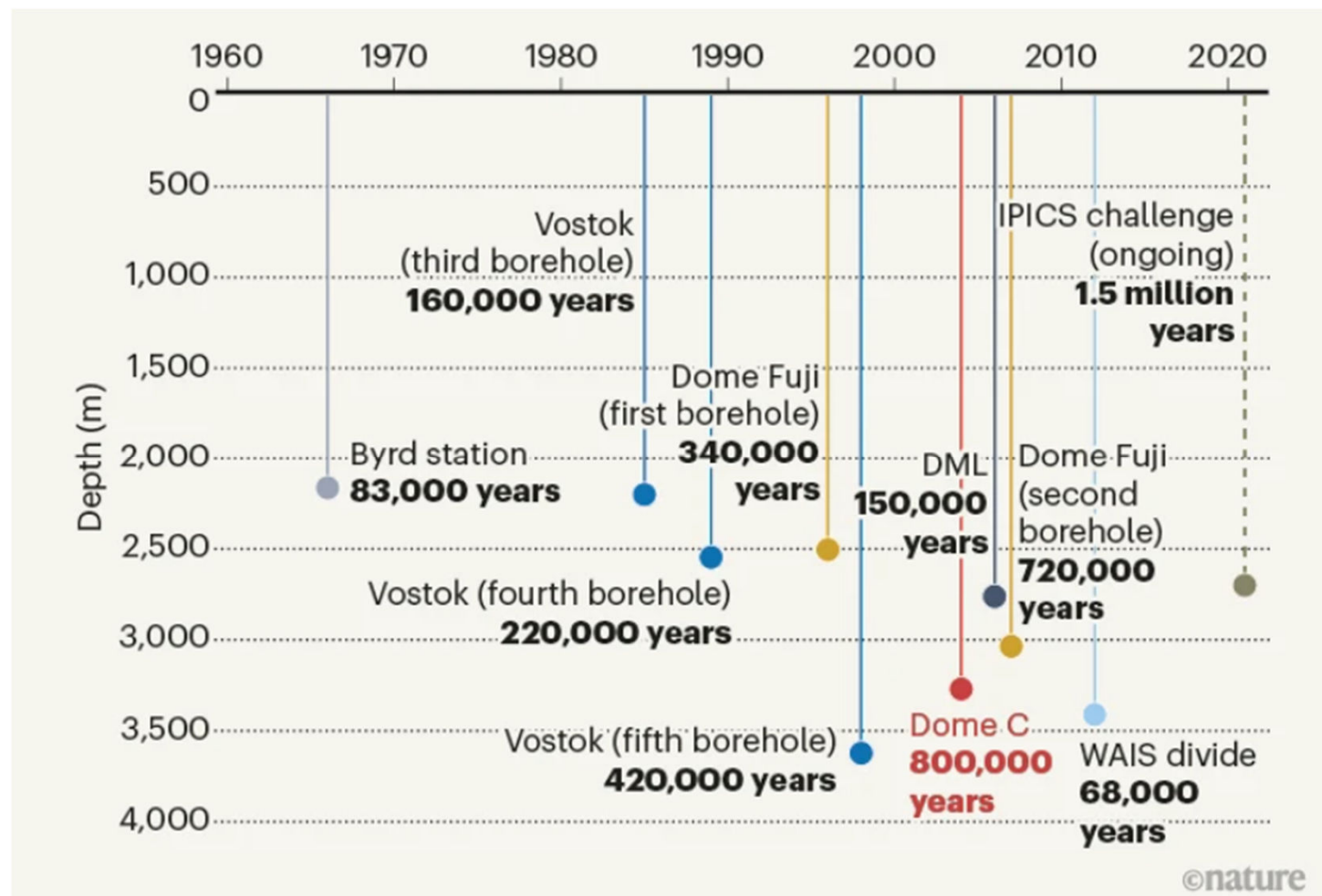
核: 36 质子, 45 中子

重量: 81个氢原子

$$\text{氦-81同位素丰度} = \frac{\text{氦-81原子数目}}{\text{氦-83原子数目}}$$

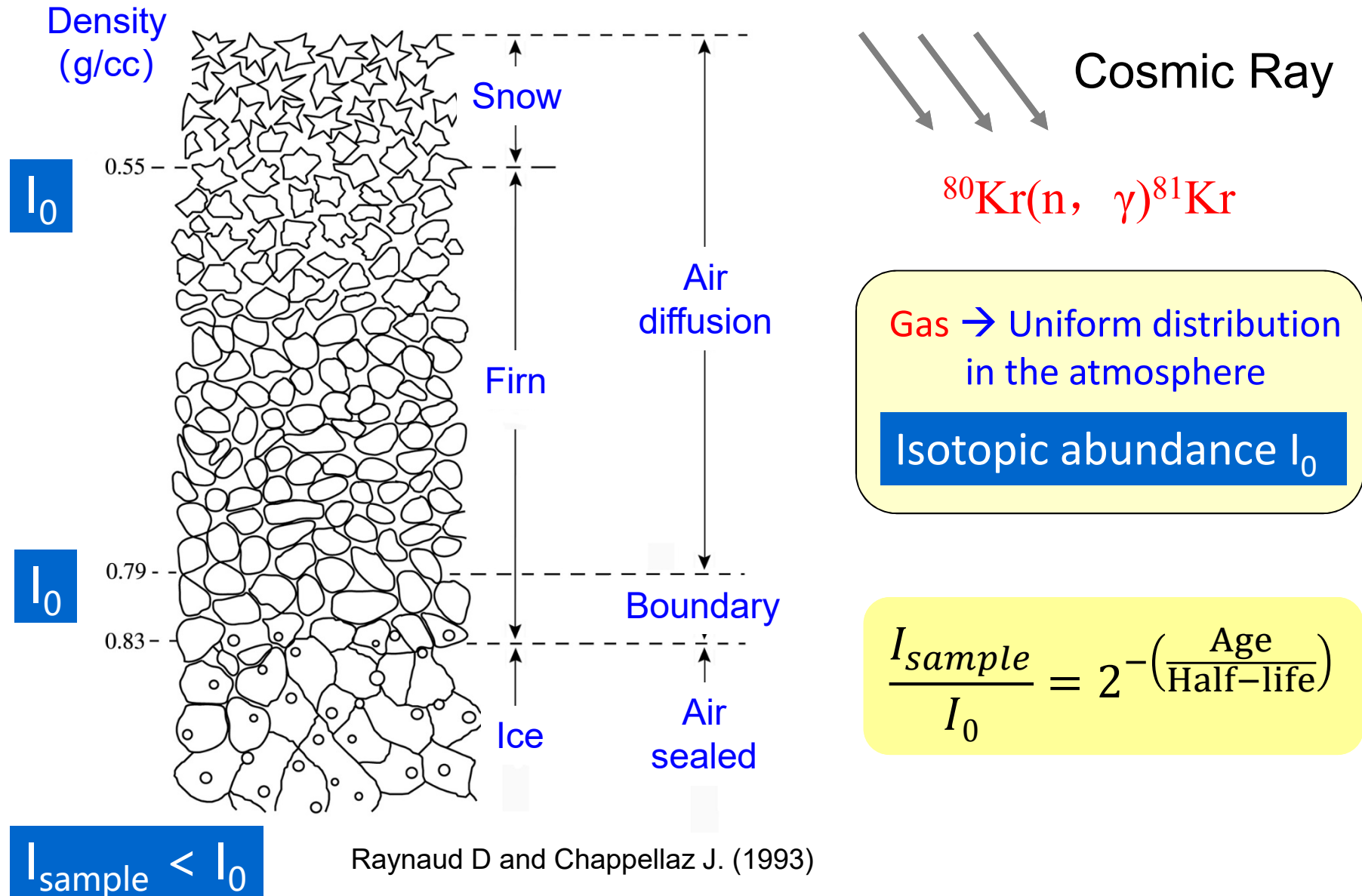
Nature, News and Views | 10 June 2024
Kawamura & Oyabu

Two decades of deep ice cores from Antarctica



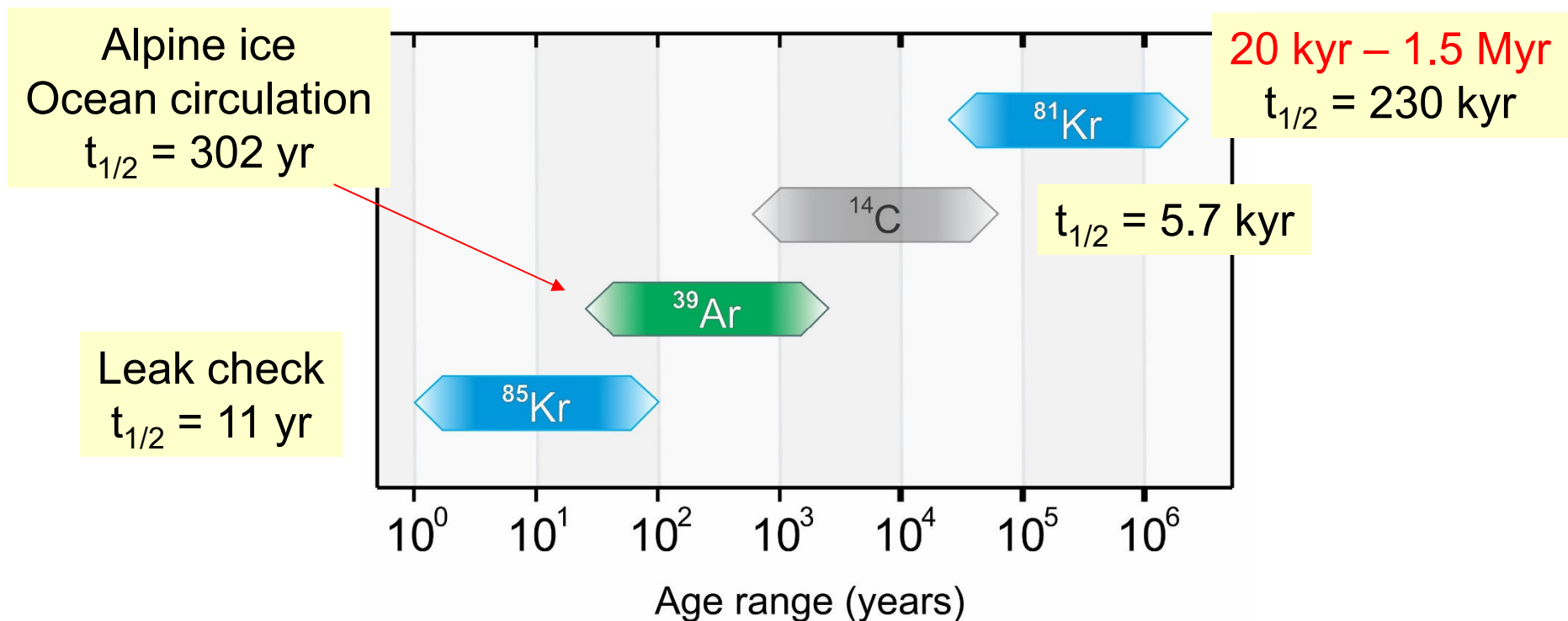
Jan. 2025
2800 m
1.2 million years
and beyond

Radioactive Gas Isotopes for Dating



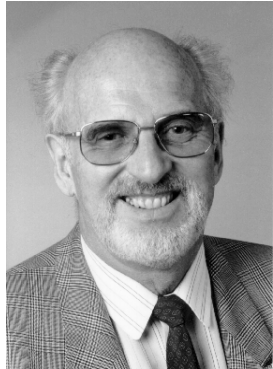
Radioactive gas isotopes for tracing / dating

- **Gas:** Even distribution around the world
- **Inert:** Simple production, transport and deposition process



^{85}Kr , ^{39}Ar , ^{81}Kr : Ideal isotopes for dating / tracing

Motivation and Challenges



Hans Oeschger
1927 – 1998

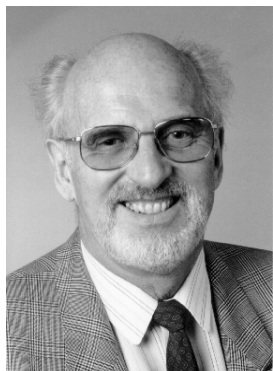


Hugo Loosli
1936 – 2021

- ^{81}Kr and ^{39}Ar are ideal dating isotopes
-- Loosli & Oeschger, Earth Planet Sci. Lett. (1969)
- Analyses difficult due to extremely low isotopic abundances

	Half-life	Isotopic abundance	Atoms per liter of water
^{85}Kr	11 yr	2×10^{-11}	30,000
^{81}Kr	230 kyr	6×10^{-13}	1,000
^{39}Ar	302 yr	8×10^{-16}	8,000

Motivation and Challenges



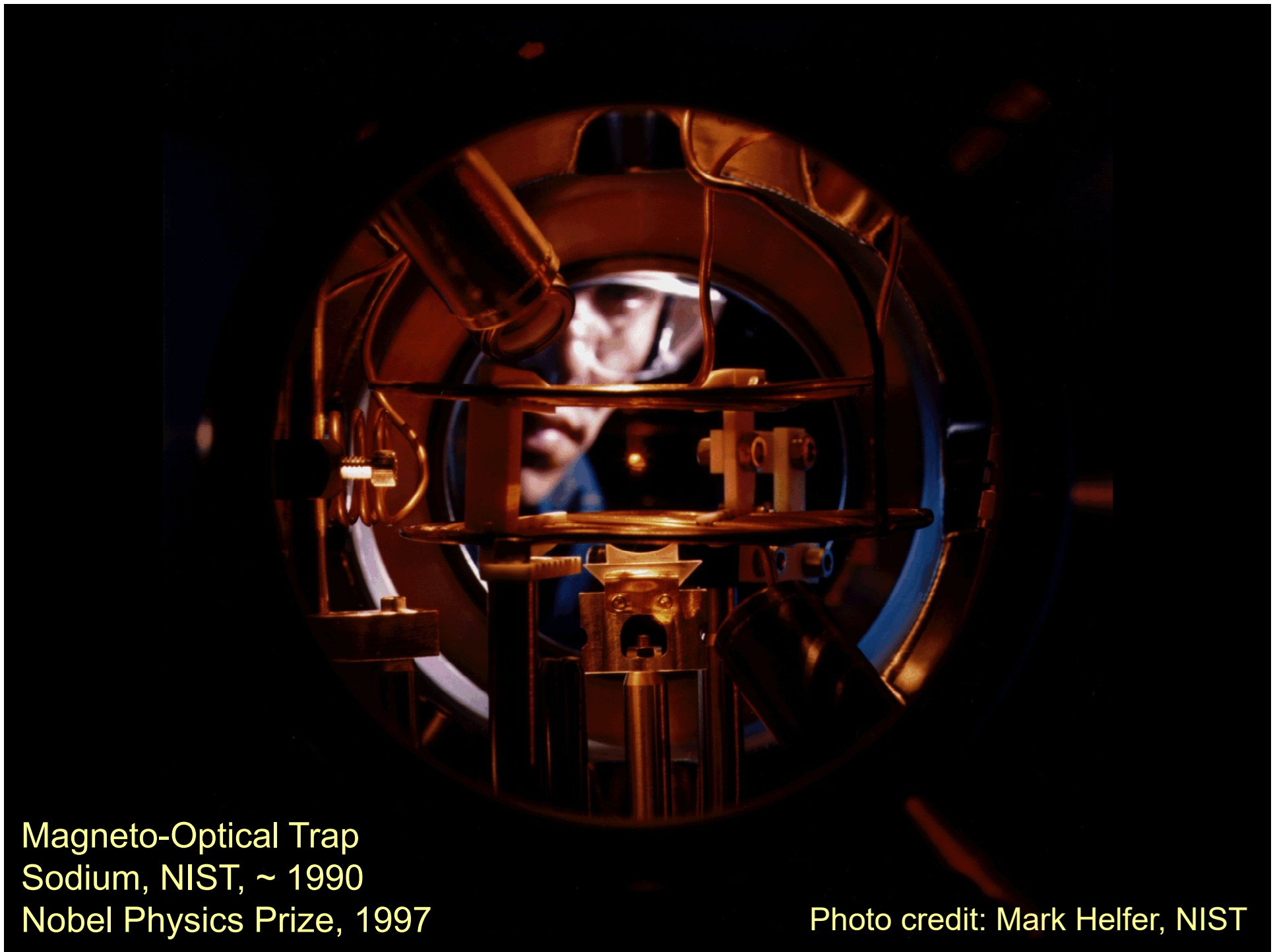
Hans Oeschger
1927 – 1998



Hugo Loosli
1936 – 2021

- ^{81}Kr and ^{39}Ar are ideal dating isotopes
-- Loosli & Oeschger, Earth Planet Sci. Lett. (1969)
- Analyses difficult due to extremely low isotopic abundances

- 1) 会有重大影响
- 2) 原理上没问题，不违反任何基本物理定律
- 3) 实践上不可能



Magneto-Optical Trap
Sodium, NIST, ~ 1990
Nobel Physics Prize, 1997

Photo credit: Mark Helfer, NIST

"for development of methods
to cool and trap atoms with
laser light"

Nobel Prize in Physics 1997



Photo from the Nobel Foundation archive.

Steven Chu

Prize share: 1/3



Photo from the Nobel Foundation archive.

Claude Cohen-Tannoudji

Prize share: 1/3



Photo from the Nobel Foundation archive.

William D. Phillips

Prize share: 1/3

Laser force on a neutral Kr atom

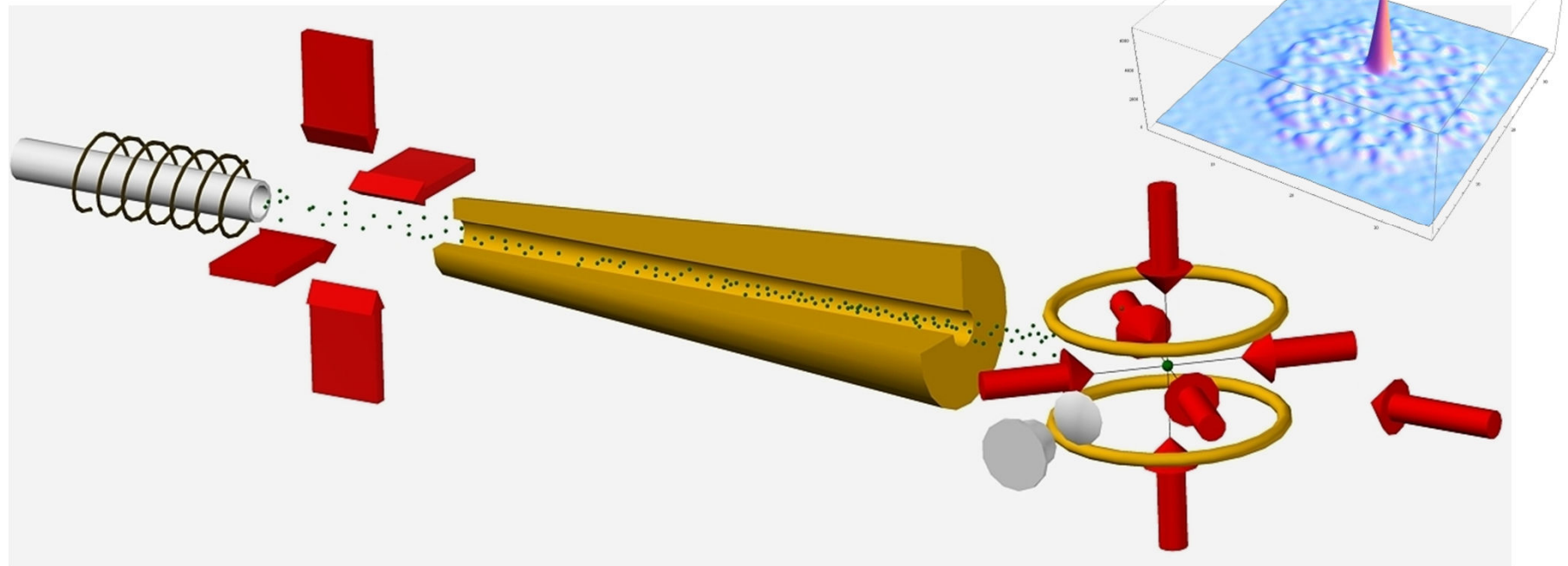
$$\text{Photon momentum: } p = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

- Planck's constant:
 $6 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J}\cdot\text{s}$
- Wavelength: 811 nm
- Single-photon recoil:
 $dv = 6 \text{ mm/s}$
- Transition rate: $10^7 / \text{s}$
- Acceleration:
 $6 \times 10^4 \text{ m/s}^2$
- Stopping distance: 1 m

Atom Trap Trace Analysis (ATTA)

Sensitive: single-atom detection

Selective: immune to background from other species,
lowest detection level limited by count rate

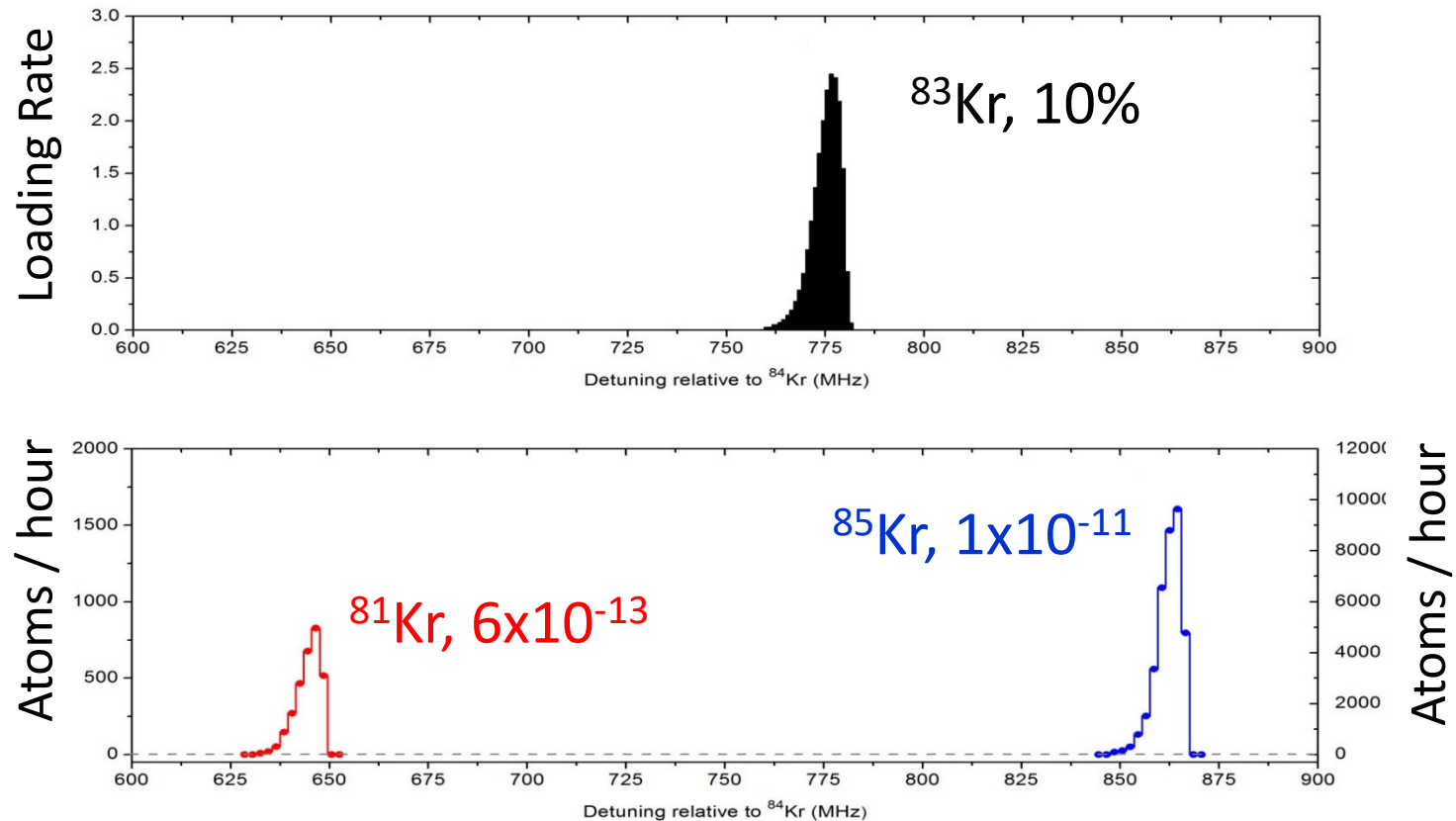


Ultrasensitive isotope trace analyses with a magneto-optical trap

C.Y. Chen, Y.M. Li, K. Bailey, T.P. O'Connor, L. Young, Z.-T. Lu. *Science* **286**, 1139 (1999)

Argonne National Laboratory, U.S.

Superb Selectivity: Repeated, Resonant Excitations

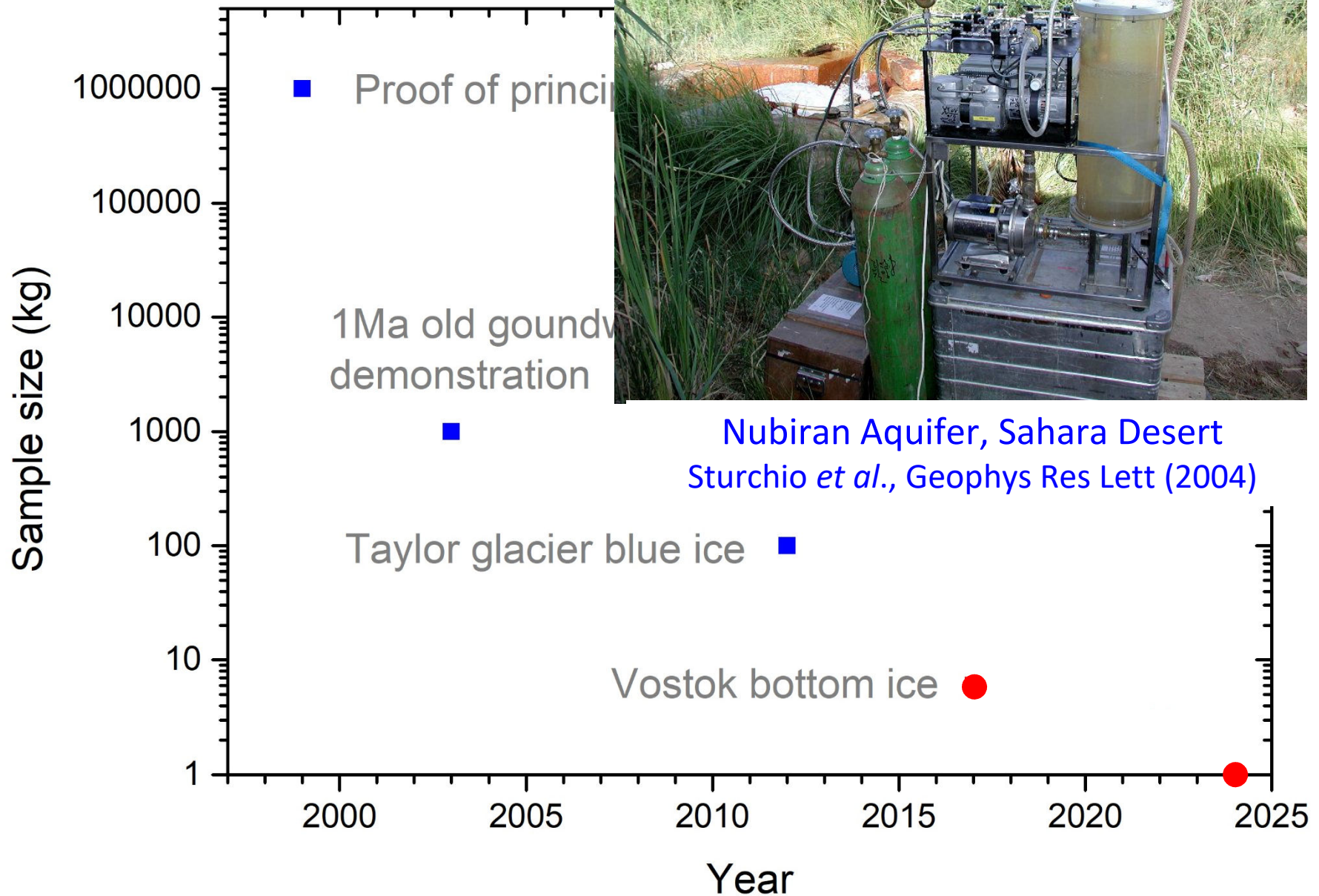


$^{81}\text{Kr}/\text{Kr} = 6 \times 10^{-13}$
Cosmogenic

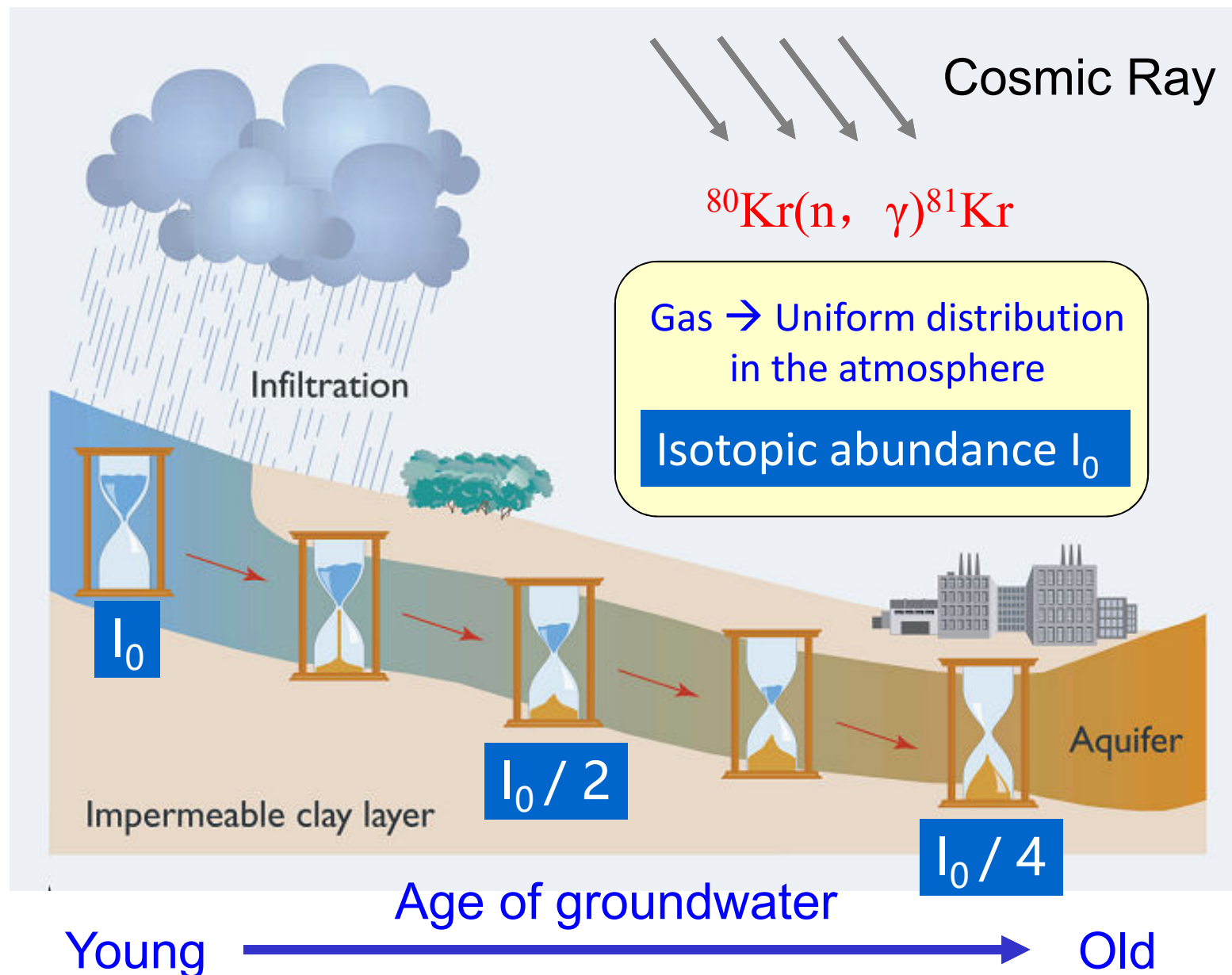
$^{85}\text{Kr}/\text{Kr} = 2 \times 10^{-11}$
Nuclear industry

W. Jiang *et al.*, Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta **91**, 1 (2012)

^{81}Kr dating: towards 100%



Radioactive Gas Isotopes for Dating / Tracing



In collaboration with earth and environmental scientists



Google: ATTA Primer

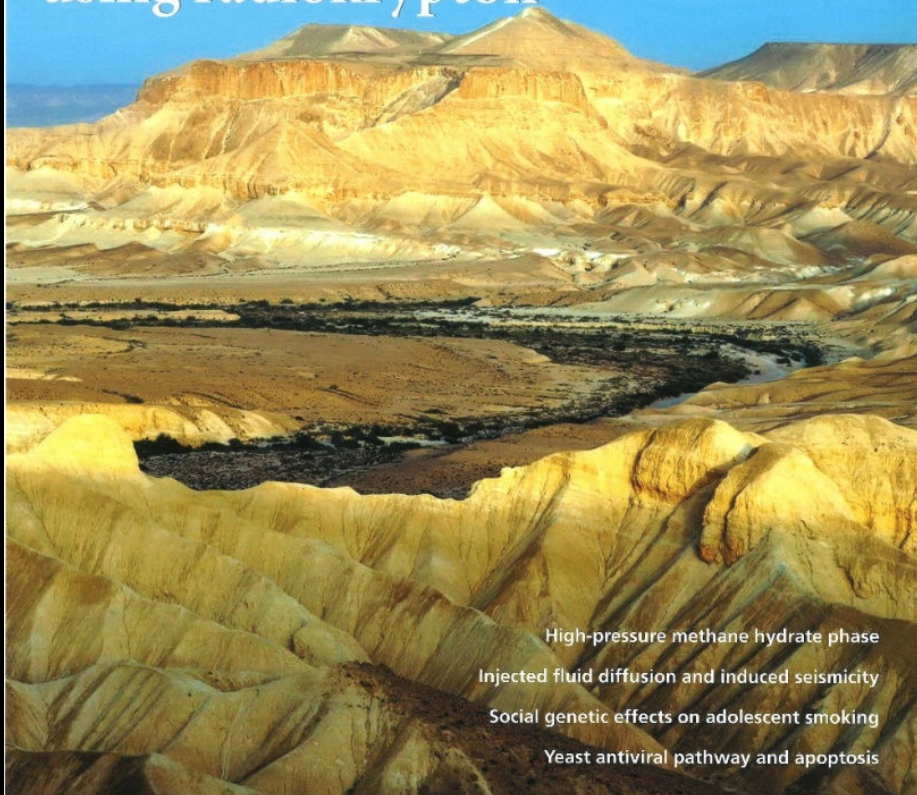
August 13, 2019 | vol. 116 | no. 33 | pp. 16153–16656

PNAS

Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

www.pnas.org

Groundwater source tracing using radiokrypton



Yokochi *et al.*, PNAS (2019)



Reika Yokochi
1975 – 2024

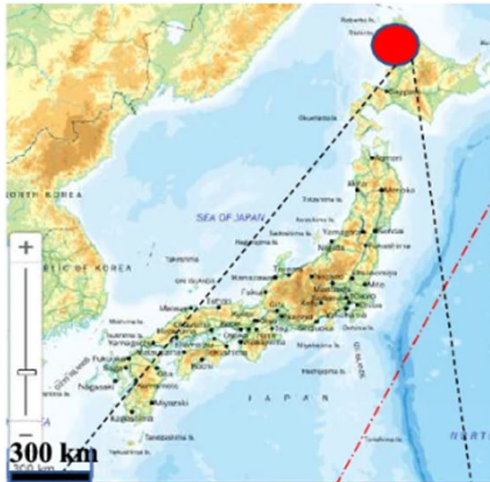
2005 PhD, Lorraine, with B. Marty
2008 – 2024 Univ. Chicago

Radiokrypton unveils dual moisture sources of a deep desert aquifer

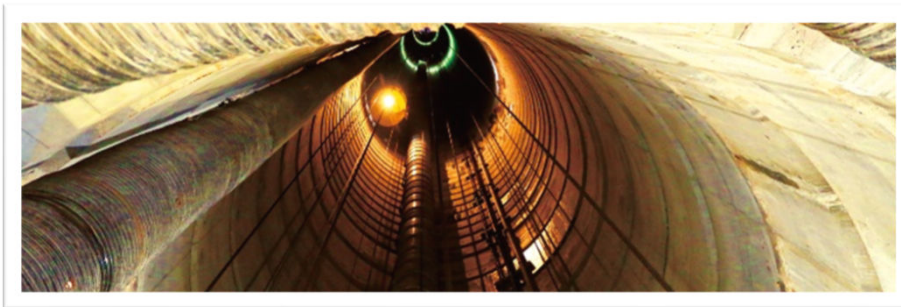
- Paleo-hydroclimate of Nubian Sandstone Aquifer in Negev Desert
- Resolved subsurface mixing and identified two distinct moisture sources of recharge:
 - Modern (< 38 ka)
 - 360 ± 30 ka

^{81}Kr dating of groundwater for assessment of deep geological repository in Japan

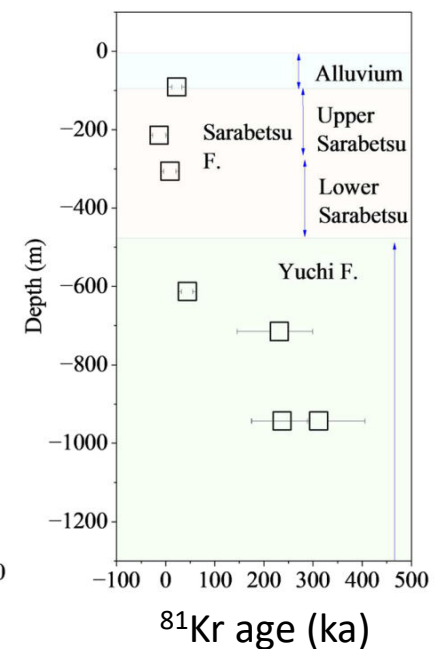
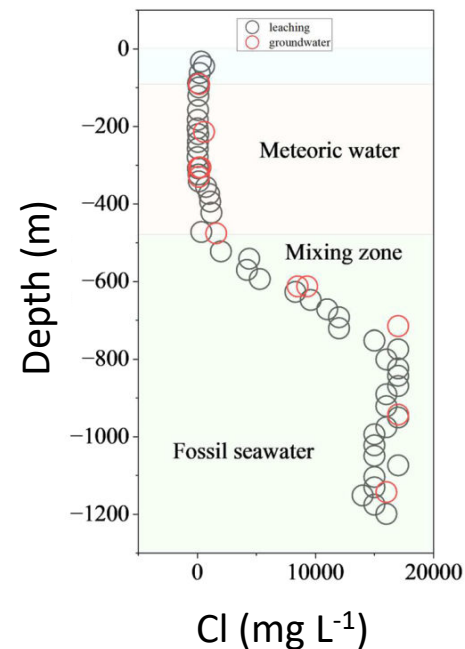
Ohta *et al.*, Sci. Rep. **14**, 15688 (2024)



- Groundwater ages 200 ~ 300 ka found under 700 m
- Two groundwater components identified
- Discrepancy among traditional dating methods resolved



Horonobe Underground
Research Center



Collaborations led by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 国际原子能机构

CRP F33023: 2016 – 2023
--13 nations participated

CRP F33028: 2024 – 2027
--15 nations participating

Asia: Cambodia, China

Australia: Australia

Africa: Algeria, Ethiopia,
Morocco, Tunisia

Europe: Germany, Hungary,
Switzerland, Türkiye

N. Am: Canada, USA

S. Am: Brazil, Argentina

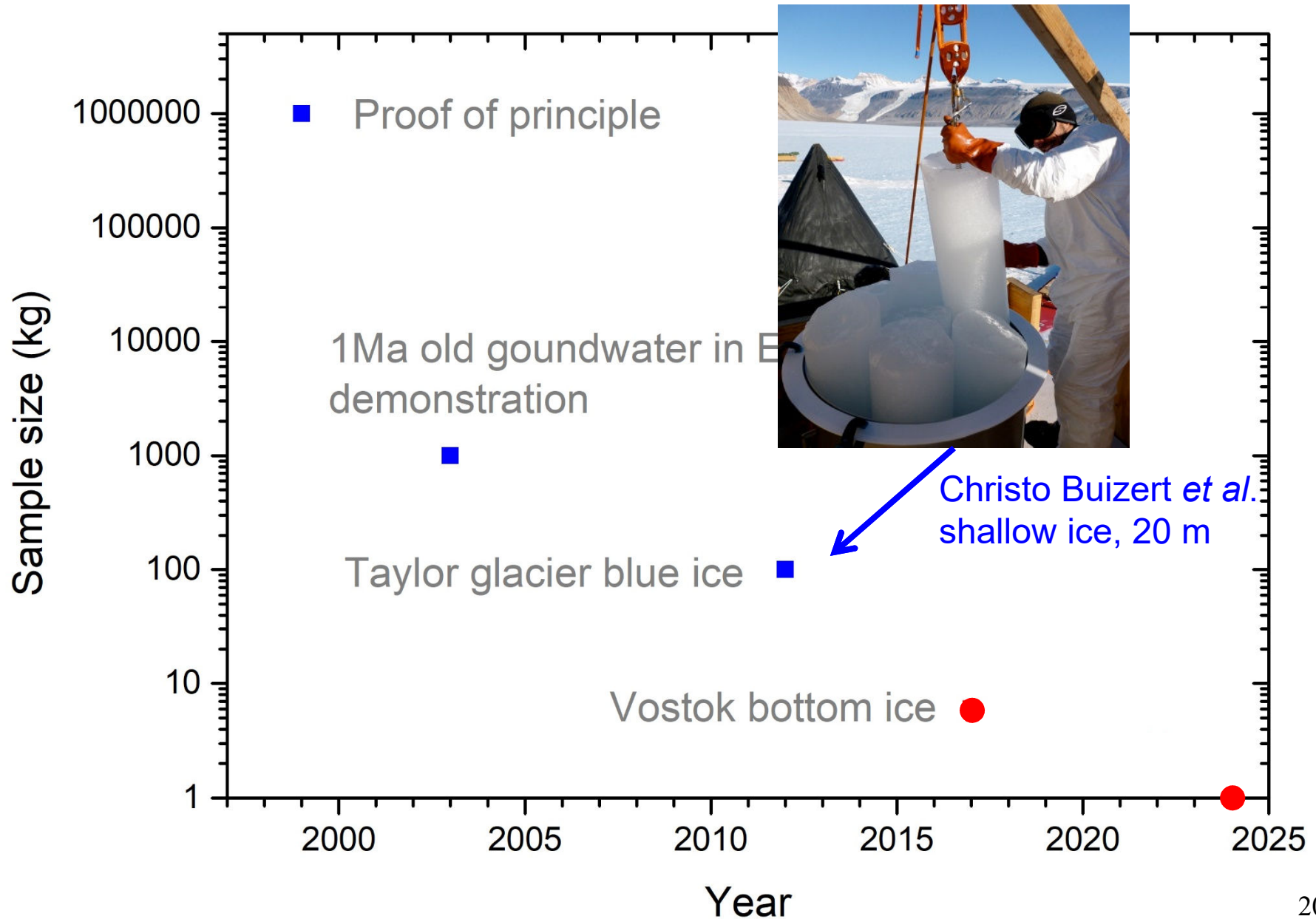


(/)

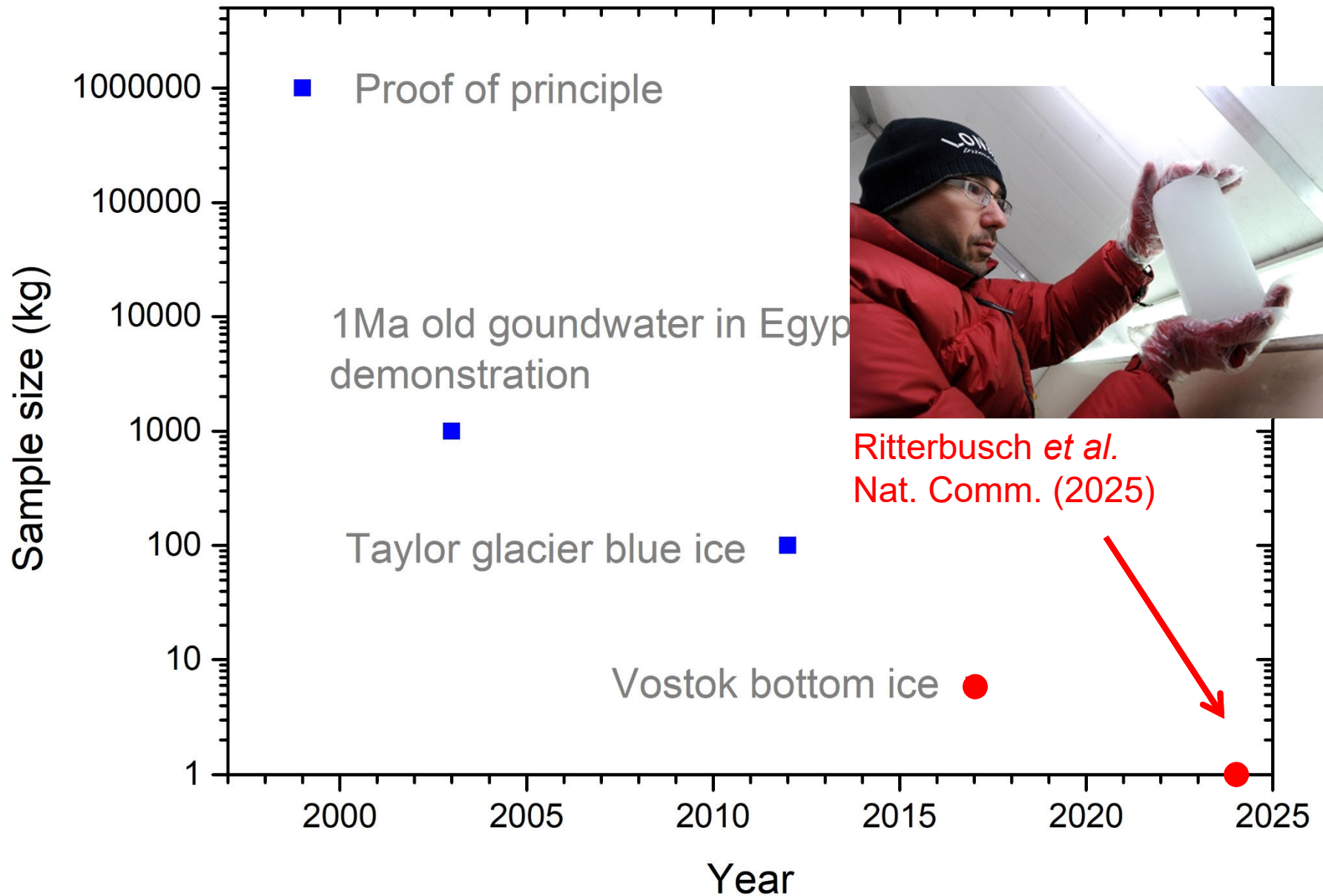
Use of Long-lived Radionuclides for Dating Very Old Groundwaters



^{81}Kr dating: towards 100% efficiency and < 1 kg of ice



^{81}Kr dating: towards 100% efficiency and < 1 kg of ice

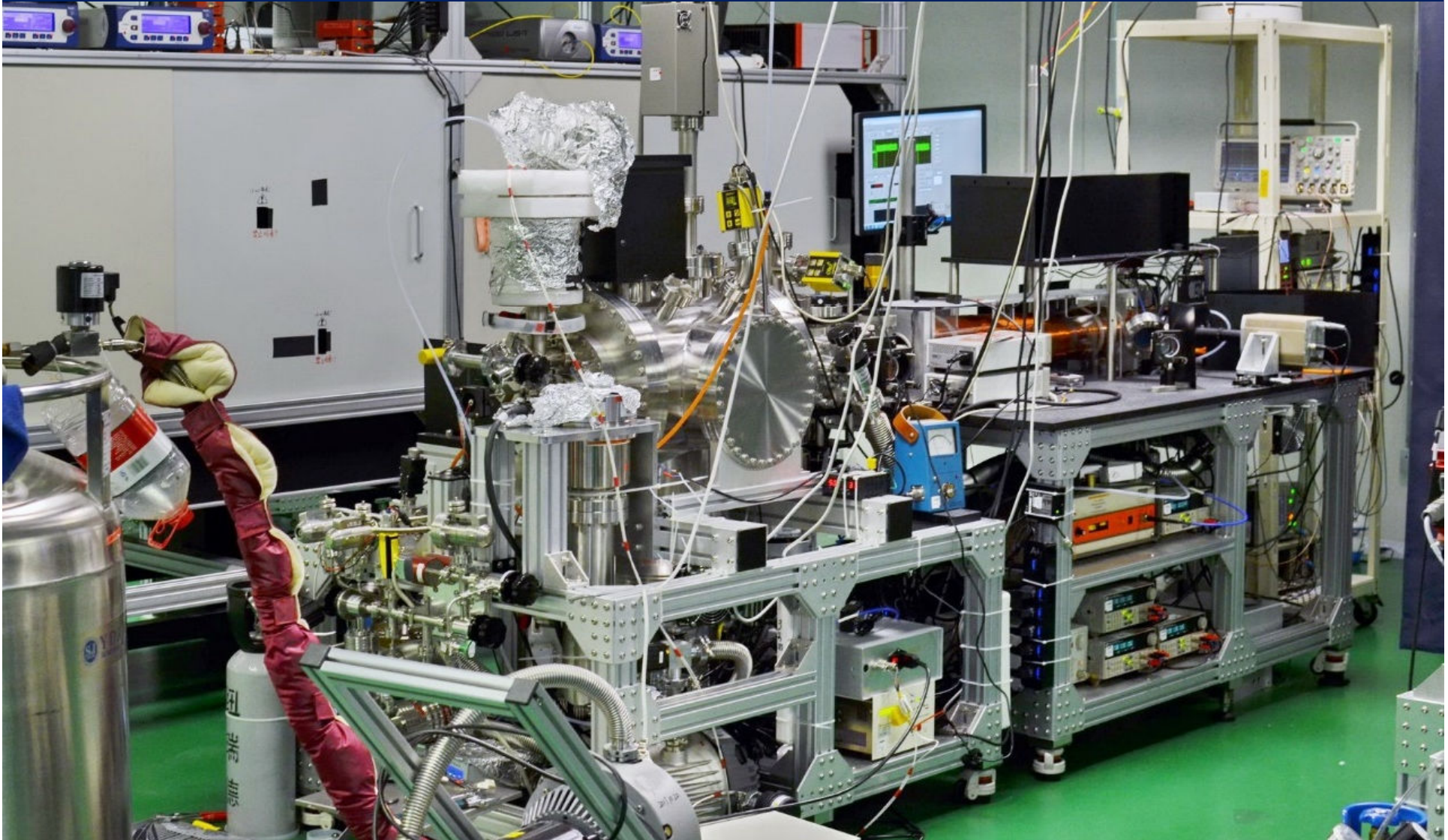


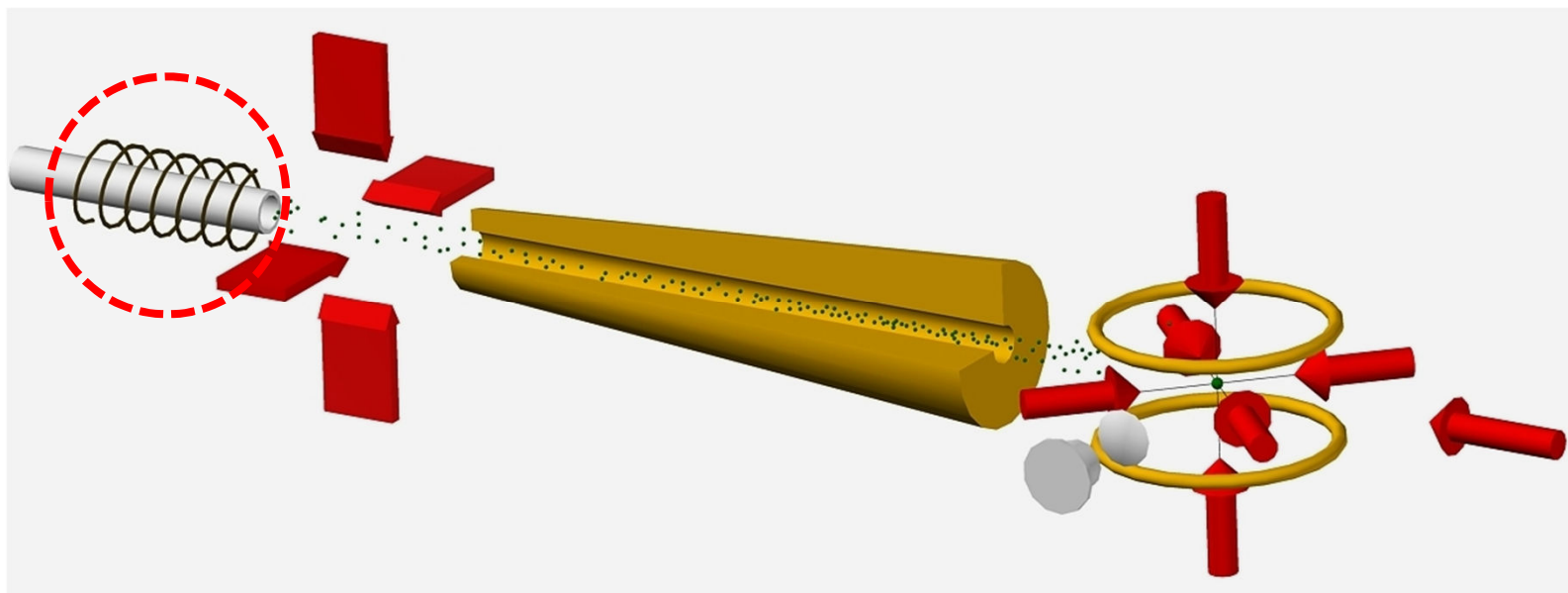
短期预测过于乐观

长期预测过于悲观

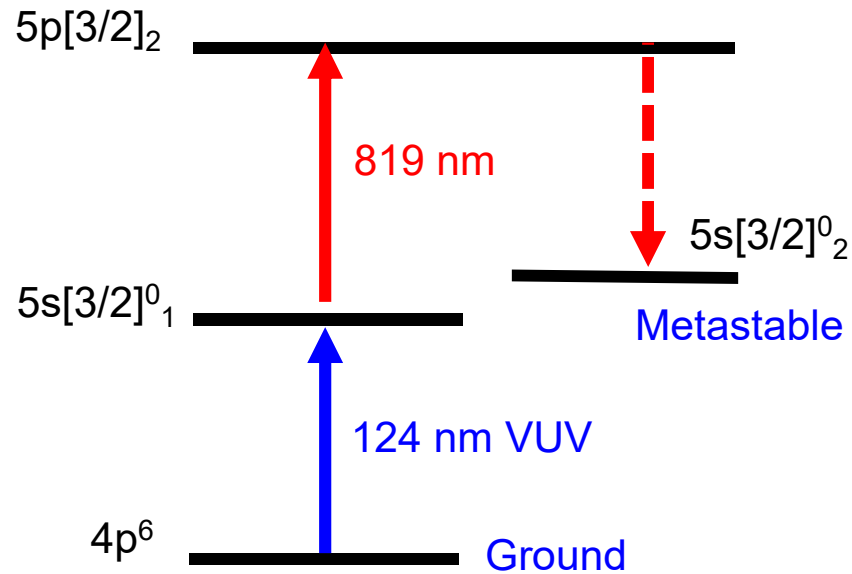
ATTA Instrument at USTC

- **Sensitive:** for rare isotope, single-atom detection
- **Fast:** for primary isotope, trap loading rate $\sim 10^{13} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- **Efficient:** $\sim 20\%$





All-Optical Production of Kr*

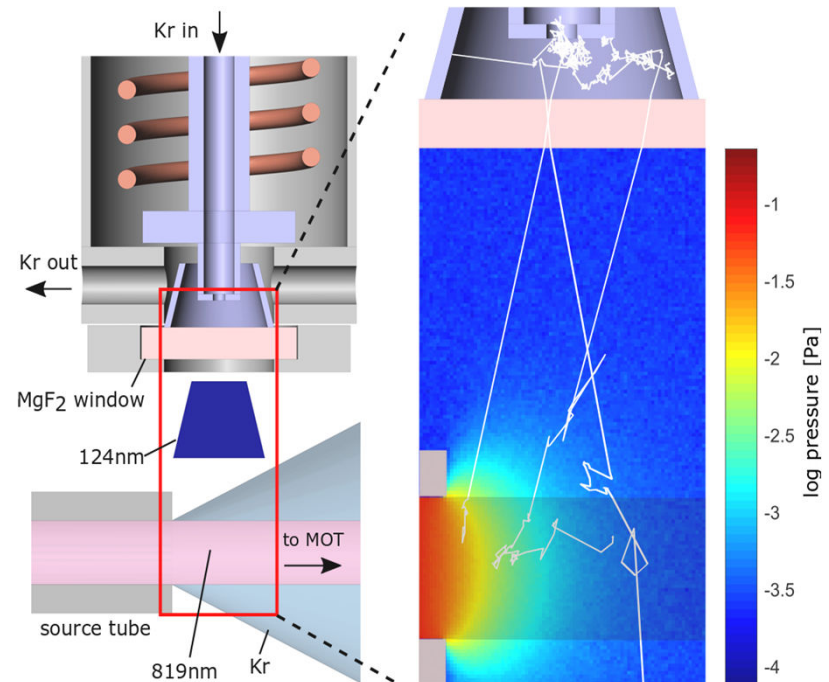


VUV + IR optical excitation

- Develop VUV lamp, FEL
- Brightness: 1 mW in 1 GHz

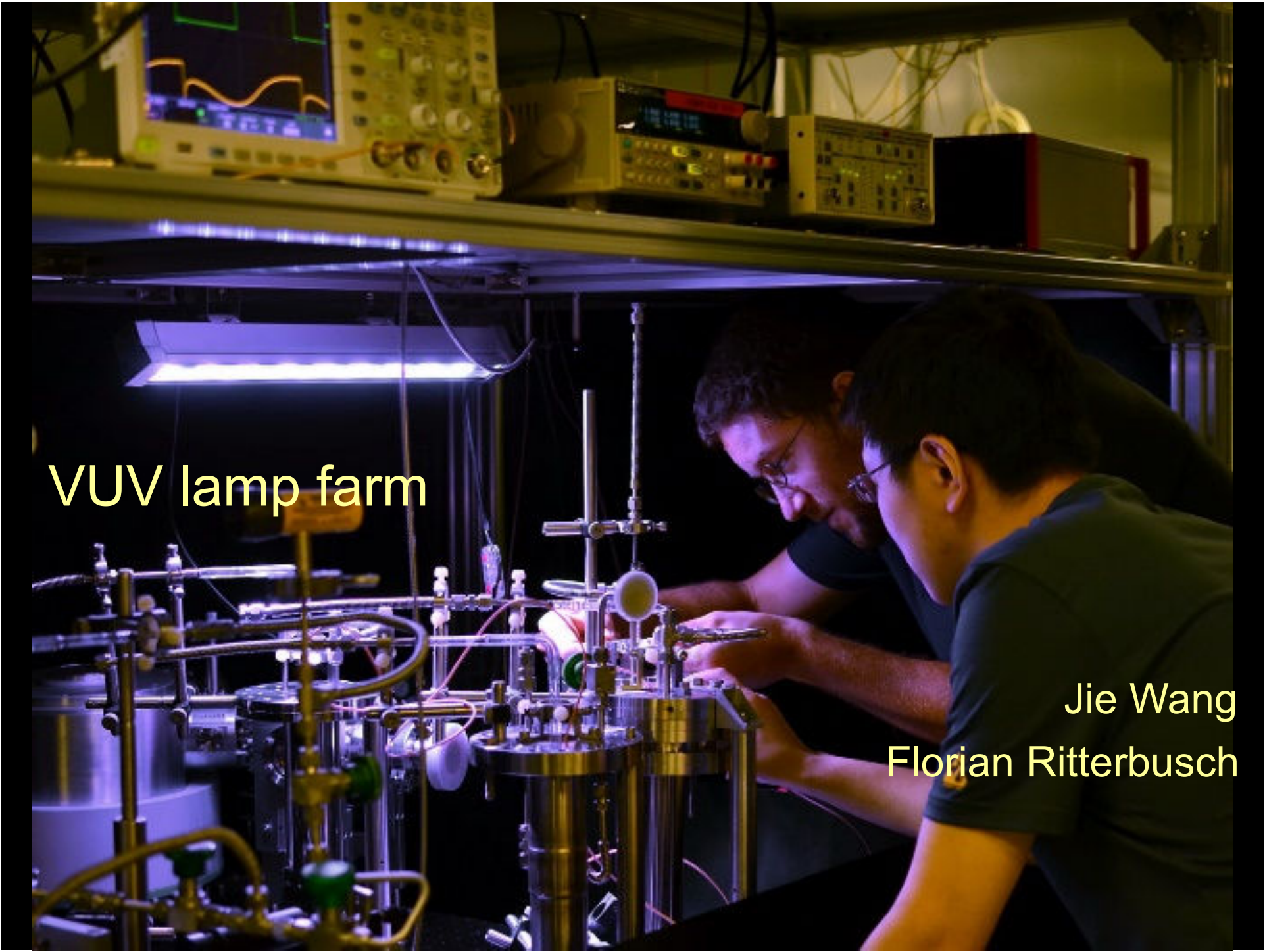
Memory effect eliminated

- Kr outgassing reduced to 20 pL / hr



Optical excitation and trapping of ^{81}Kr

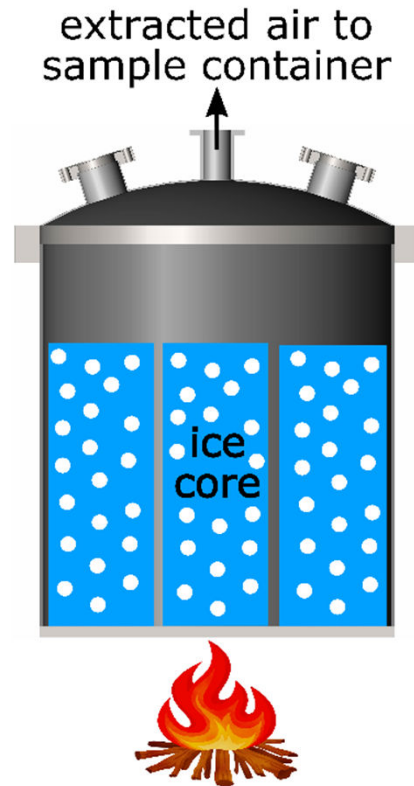
Wang *et al.*, PRL **127**, 023201 (2021)

A photograph of two researchers, Jie Wang and Florian Ritterbusch, working on a complex scientific apparatus. The apparatus is a VUV lamp farm, which is a system of multiple vacuum ultraviolet lamps used for photochemical reactions. The researchers are wearing safety glasses and are focused on adjusting the equipment. The setup includes various metal components, tubes, and electrical connections. In the background, there are shelves with electronic equipment, including a oscilloscope and a power supply. The lighting is dim, with a bright light source from the lamp farm illuminating the scene.

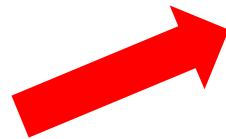
VUV lamp farm

Jie Wang
Florian Ritterbusch

Radio-krypton Dating Procedure



Gas
extraction



100 mL STP

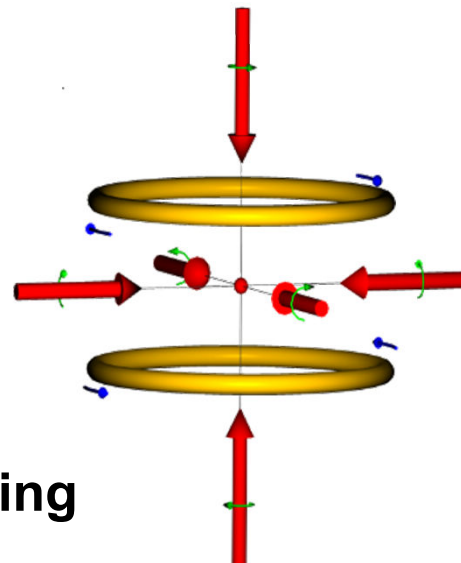
Kr purification



Kr

100 nL STP

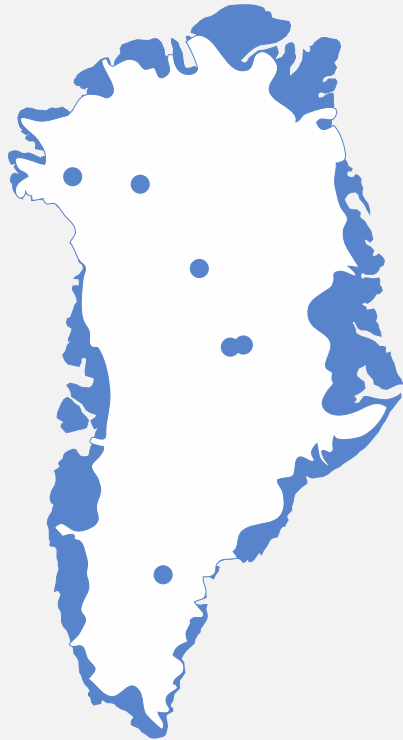
Atom
counting



$$\frac{[^{81}\text{Kr}/^{83}\text{Kr}]_{\text{sample}}}{[^{81}\text{Kr}/^{83}\text{Kr}]_{\text{air}}} = 2^{-\left(\frac{\text{Age}}{\text{Half-life}}\right)}$$

When was Greenland Green?

- **ERC Synergy Grant Project:** When was Greenland green? – Perspectives from basal ice and sediments from ice cores (Green2Ice)
- **^{81}Kr dating of basal ice:**
 - GISP2, Camp Century, NEEM, NGRIP, Dye-3, GRIP



Lead Scientist:
Dorthe Darl-Jesen
Niels Bohr Institute

Greenland's Oldest Ice and Sediment
University of Vermont
October 22-25, 2019



核心科学目标： 为研究全球和区域水循环提供关键时间信息

