

# Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) at ATLAS

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**ATLAS 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory

22-23 October 2010

## AMS at ATLAS over the years

Year	Radioisotope	Accelerator	Topic
1979	$^{14}\text{C}$ , $^{26}\text{Al}$ , $^{32}\text{Si}$ , $^{36}\text{Cl}$	Tandem	Detection with split-pole spectrograph
1980	$^{32}\text{Si}$	Tandem	Half-life measurement (101 yr)
1980	$^{26}\text{Al}$	Tandem	Cross section $^{26}\text{Mg}(p,\gamma)^{26}\text{Al}$
1983	$^{44}\text{Ti}$	Tandem	Half-life measurement (54 yr)
1984	$\text{B}^{--}$ , $\text{C}^{--}$ , $\text{O}^{--}$	Tandem	No evidence found ( $<10^{-15}$ )
1984	$^{60}\text{Fe}$	Tandem+Linac	Half-life measurement ( $1.5 \times 10^6$ yr)
1984	Free quarks	Injector Fermi Lab	Cryogenic search for free quarks
1987	$^{41}\text{Ca}$	Tandem+Linac+GFM	Developing a $^{41}\text{Ca}$ dating method
1993	$^{59}\text{Ni}$	Tandem+Linac+FS	Solar CR alphas in moon rocks
1994	$^{39}\text{Ar}$ , $^{81}\text{Kr}$	ECR+Linac+GFM	Developing a detection method
2000	$^{81}\text{Kr}$	NSCL (MSU)+FS	Groundwater dating
2000	$^{236}\text{U}$	ECR+Linac+FMA	$^{236}\text{U}$ from $^{235}\text{U}$ ( $n,\gamma$ )
2004	$^{39}\text{Ar}$	ECR+Linac+GFM	Dating of ocean water (circulation)
2005	$^{63}\text{Ni}$	ECR+Linac+GFM	Cross section of $^{62}\text{Ni}(n,\gamma)^{63}\text{Ni}$
2008	$^{39}\text{Ar}$	ECR+Linac+GFM	Ar with “no“ $^{39}\text{Ar}$ (dark matter search)
2009	$^{146}\text{Sm}$	ECR+Linac+GFM	Half-life meas. ( $\sim 10^8$ yr), p-process

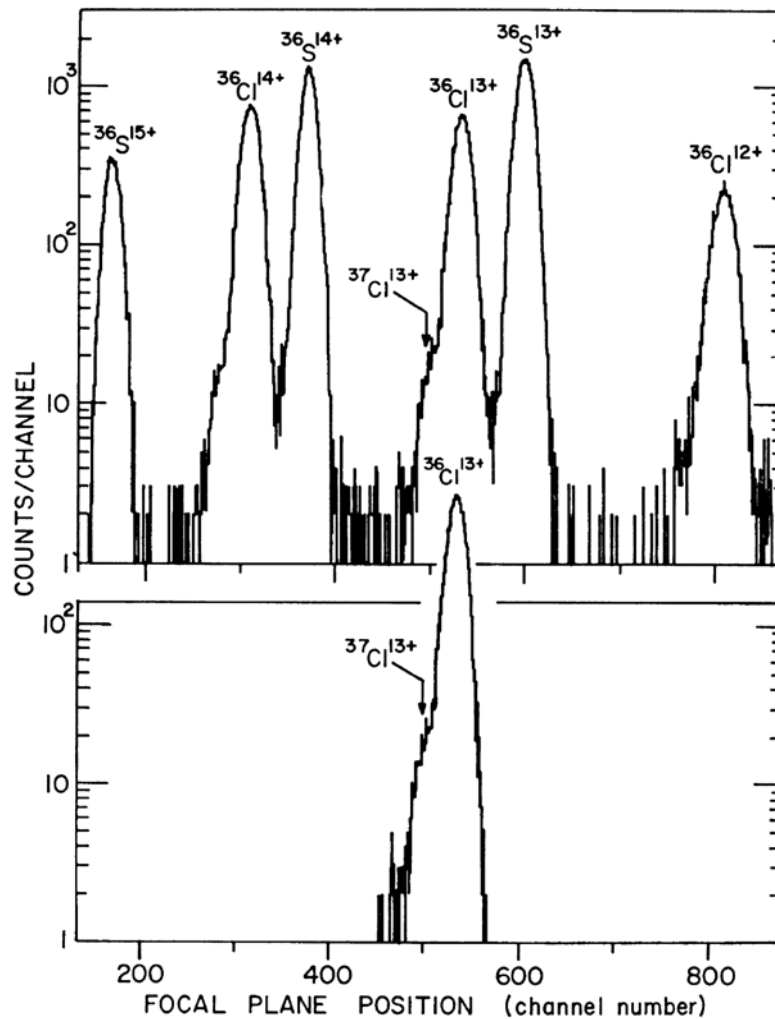
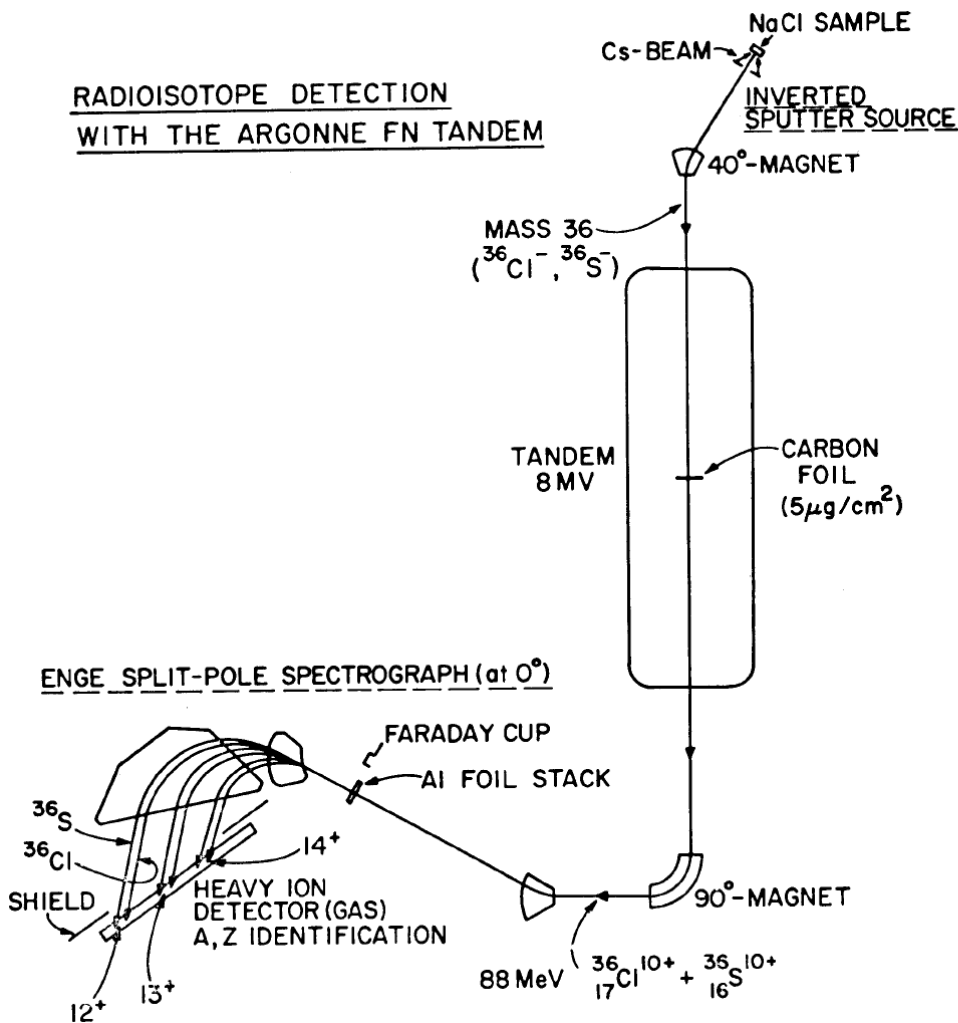
## People from Argonne involved with AMS over the years

I. Ahmad, D. Berkovits, P. J. Billquist, F. Borasi, J. Caggiano, **P. Collon**, C. N. Davids, D. Frekers, B. G. Glagola, J. P. Greene, R. Harkewicz, B. Harss, A. Heinz, D. J. Henderson, **W. Henning**, C. L. Jiang, W. Kutschera, M. Notani, **R. C. Pardo**, N. Patel, **M. Paul**, **K. E. Rehm**, R. Rejoub, J. P. Schiffer, R. H. Scott, D. Seweryniak, K.W. Shepard, S. Sinha, A. Sozogni, E. J. Stephenson, X, Tang, J. Unsitalo, **R. Vondrasek**, J. L. Yntema

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RADIOISOTOPE DETECTION  
WITH THE ARGONNE FN TANDEM



**First AMS Paper from Argonne: W. Kutschera, W. Henning, M. Paul, E.J. Stephenson, J. L. Yntema, *Radiocarbon* 22/3 (1980) 807**

ANL/PHY-81-1

ANL-PHYSICS DIVISION

MAY 11-13, 1981

*W. Henning*

PROCEEDINGS

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A CCELERATOR

M ASS

S PECTROMETRY

1981



ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY, ARGONNE, ILL. 60439

OPERATED UNDER CONTRACT W-31-109-ENG-38 FOR THE  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

INTRODUCTION

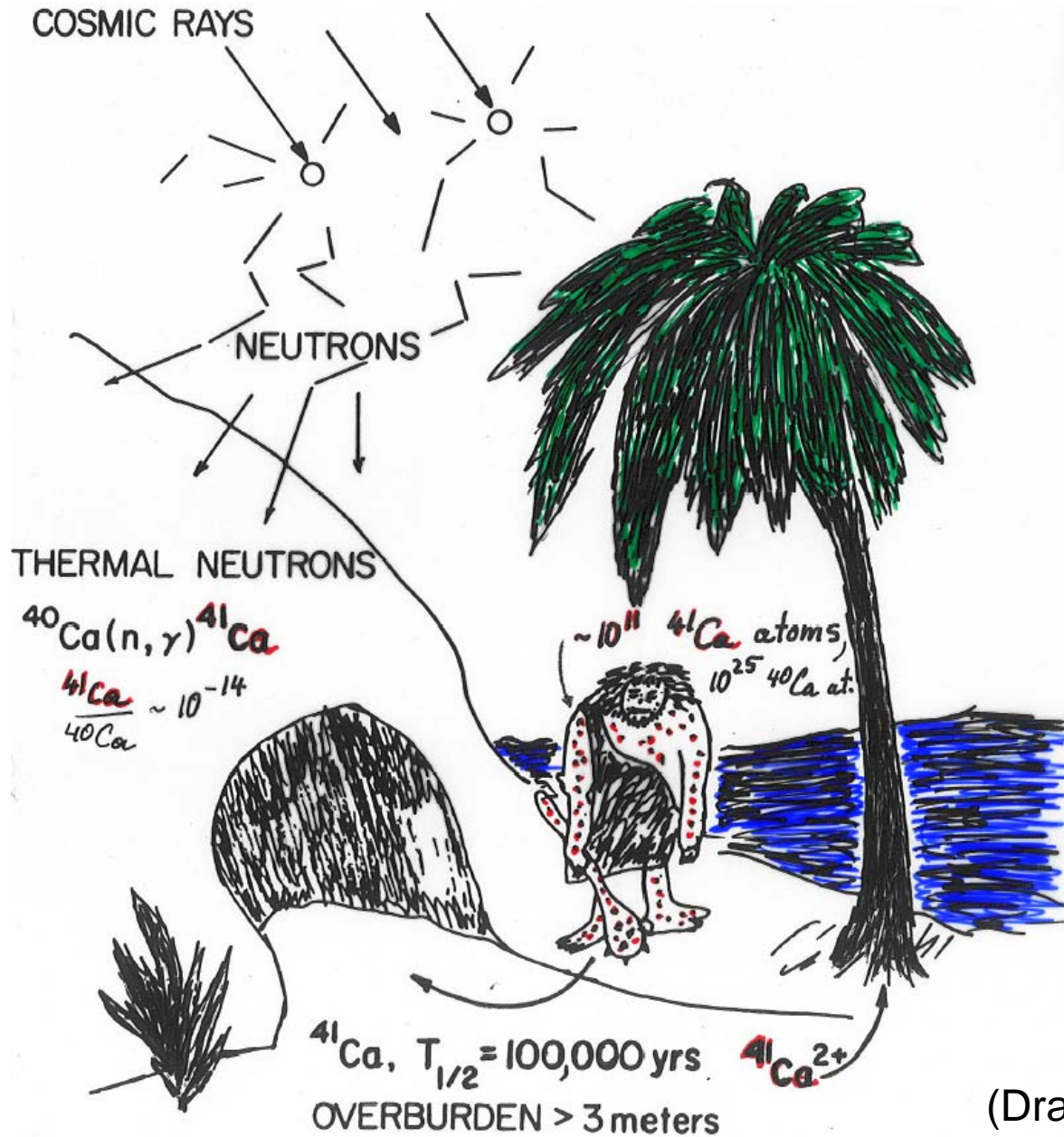
The area of accelerator mass spectrometry has expanded considerably over the past few years and, in our opinion, indeed established itself as an independent and interdisciplinary research field. Three years have passed since the first meeting was held at Rochester, and we felt it timely to gather and discuss the recent developments and present status of the field. A Symposium on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry was held at Argonne on May 11-13, 1981. In attendance were 96 scientists of which 26 were from outside the United States. The present proceedings focus on the program and excitement of the field. Papers are ...

..... We should like to thank the members of the program committee and all participants of the meeting for contributing to its success.

Walter Henning  
Walter Kutschera  
Robert K. Smither  
Jan L. Yntema  
(The Organizing Committee)



# The Concept of Radiocalcium Dating



(Drawing: W. Henning)

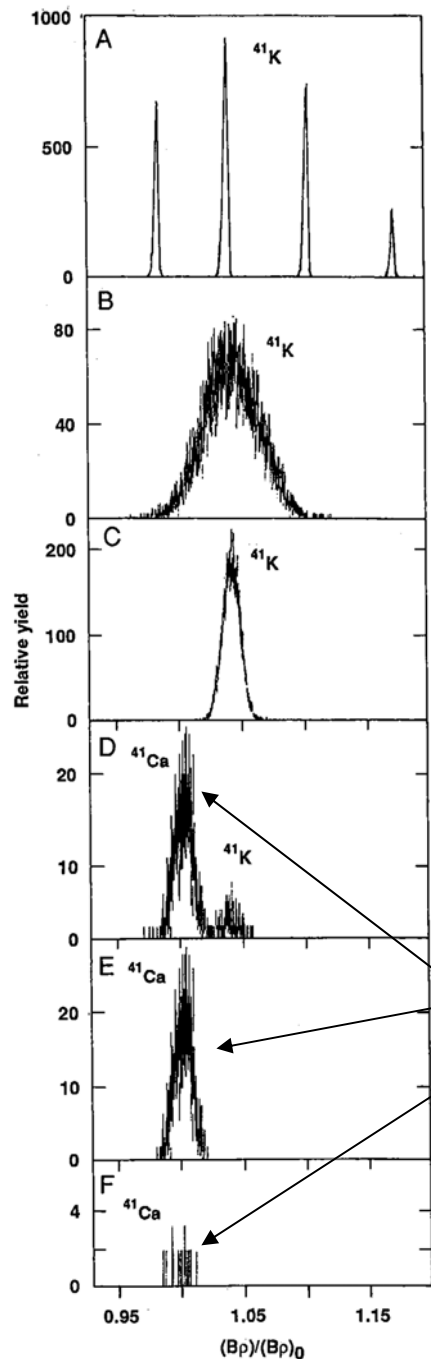
## Calcium-41 Concentration in Terrestrial Materials: Prospects for Dating of Pleistocene Samples

W. Henning, W. A. Bell, P. J. Billquist, B. G. Glagola,  
W. Kutschera, Z. Liu, H. F. Lucas, M. Paul, K. E. Rehm,  
J. L. Yntema, *Science* 236 (1987) 725

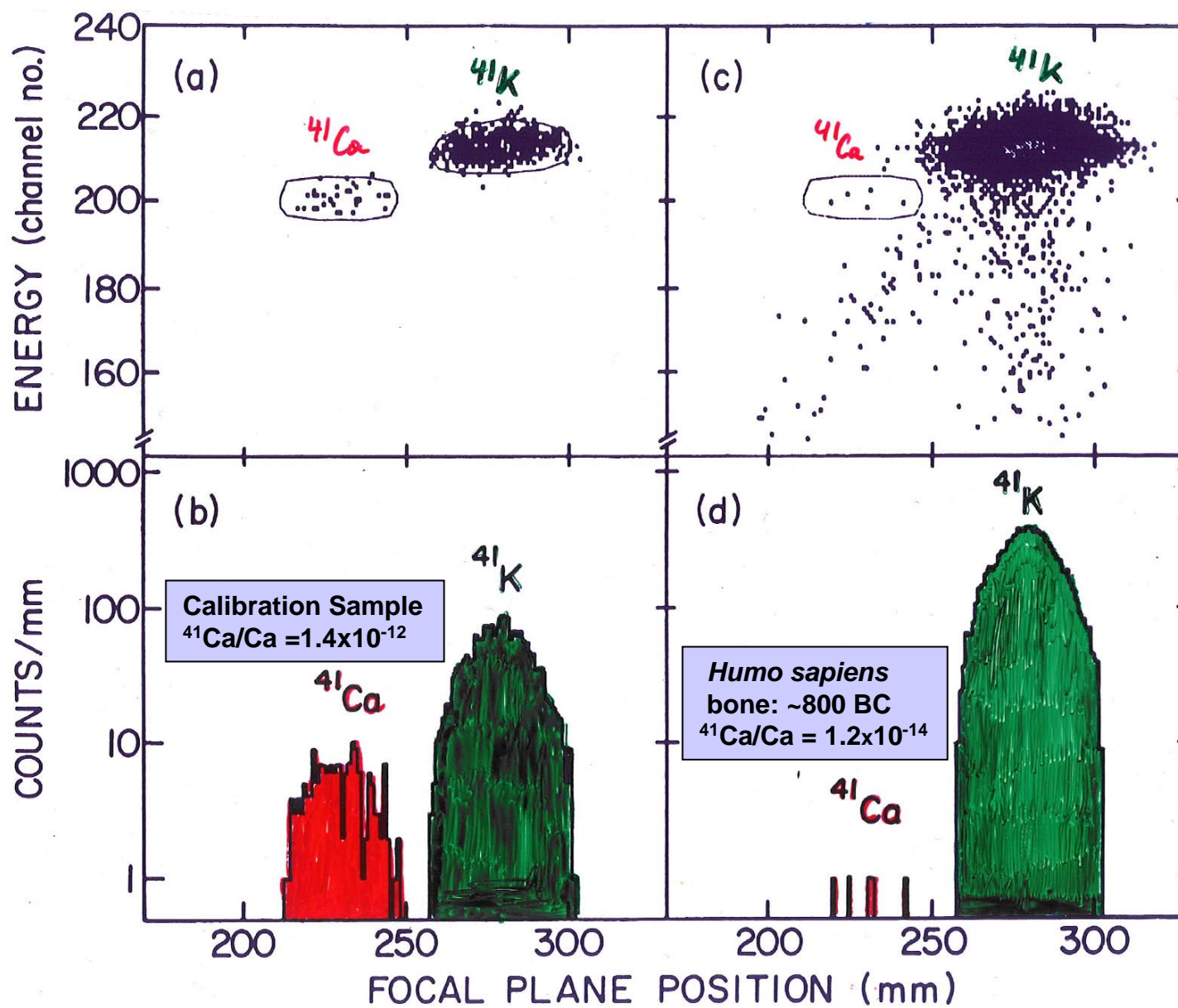
Detection of natural  $^{41}\text{Ca}/\text{Ca}$  ratio using an enrichment process similar to the first detection of  $^{14}\text{C}$  by W. F. Libby 40 years earlier [Phys. Rev. 72 (1947) 931].

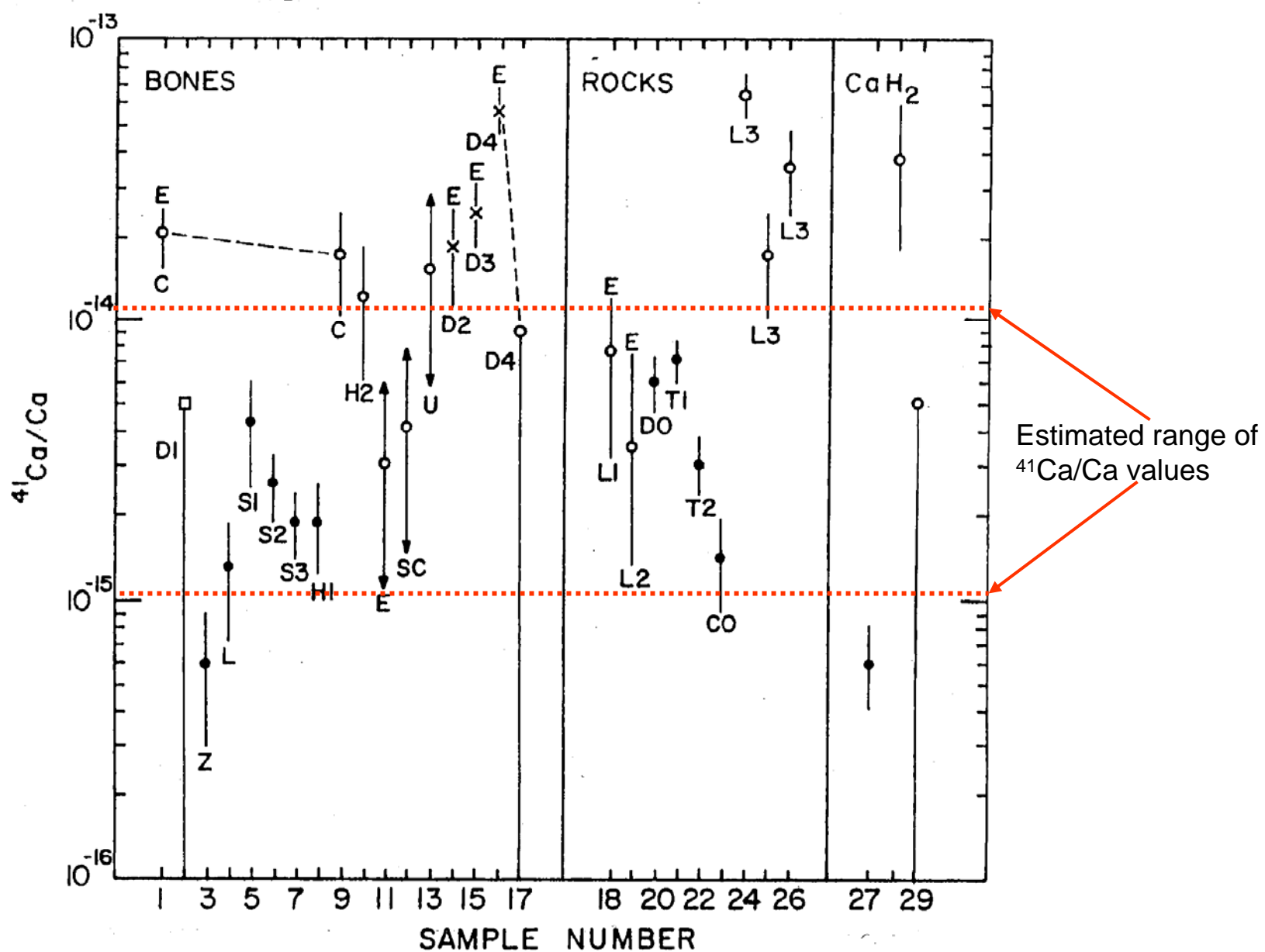
**Table 2.** Summary of the results of  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  abundances. The values measured with AMS were divided by the pre-enrichment factor to obtain the original  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  abundances.

Sample	$^{41}\text{Ca}/\text{Ca}$ ratio measured with AMS	Pre-enrichment factor	Original $^{41}\text{Ca}/\text{Ca}$ ratio
Calibration sample (nonenriched)	$(4.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-12}$	1	$(4.4 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-12}$
Calibration sample (pre-enriched)	$(5.2 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-10}$	152	$(3.4 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-12}$
Contemporary bovine bone	$(3.0 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-12}$	151	$(2.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-14}$
Limestone (surface)	$(8.8 \pm 4.4) \times 10^{-13}$	116	$(7.6 \pm 4.5) \times 10^{-15}$
Limestone (11 m depth)	$(4.0 \pm 1.9) \times 10^{-13}$	117	$(3.4 \pm 2.1) \times 10^{-15}$
Limestone (11 m depth) (nonenriched)	$\leq 5.8 \times 10^{-14}$	1	$(3.4 \times 10^{-15})$









Overview of  $^{41}\text{Ca}$  measurements at Argonne, GSI, Penn, Rehovot

# A possible solution:

## Absolute $^{41}\text{Ca}$ dating?

$^{41}\text{Ca}$  decays by electron capture:  $^{41}\text{Ca} + e^- \rightarrow ^{41}\text{K}^* + \nu_e$

Exponential decay of  $^{41}\text{Ca}$ :  $^{41}\text{Ca}_t = ^{41}\text{Ca}_0 \times e^{-\lambda t}$

The sum of parent and daughter is:  $^{41}\text{Ca}_0 = ^{41}\text{Ca}_t + ^{41}\text{K}_t^*(\text{radiogenic})$

The **age** is then **independent** of  $^{41}\text{Ca}_0$ :  $t = 1/\lambda \times \ln(1 + ^{41}\text{K}_t^*/^{41}\text{Ca}_t)$

The problem which has to be solved: How to distinguish  $^{41}\text{K}^*$  from ubiquitous environmental  $^{41}\text{K}$

Perhaps this may work: The recoil energy of  $^{41}\text{K}^*$  after EC due to the emission of  $\nu_e$  is only +2.2 eV.

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**Perhaps  $^{41}\text{K}^*$  will stay inside the apatite crystals, and can thus be detected after selective chemistry has dissolved everything else of the bone matrix.**

**Measuring the interaction of soft alpha particles  
from solar cosmic rays with the surface  
of the moon**

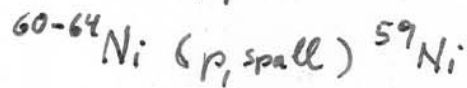
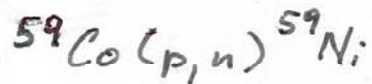
W.K. et al., *Nucl. Instr. Meth.* **73** (1993) 403

Production of  $^{59}\text{Ni}$  by solar cosmic ray alpha particles from iron in lunar surface rocks

$^{58}\text{Ni}$ 66.27%	$^{59}\text{Ni}$ 76,000yr	$^{60}\text{Ni}$ 26.10	$^{61}\text{Ni}$ 1.13	$^{62}\text{Ni}$ 3.59	$^{63}\text{Ni}$ 100yr	$^{64}\text{Ni}$ 0.91
		$^{59}\text{Co}$ 100				
$^{56}\text{Fe}$ 91.72	$^{57}\text{Fe}$ 2.1	$^{58}\text{Fe}$ 0.28				

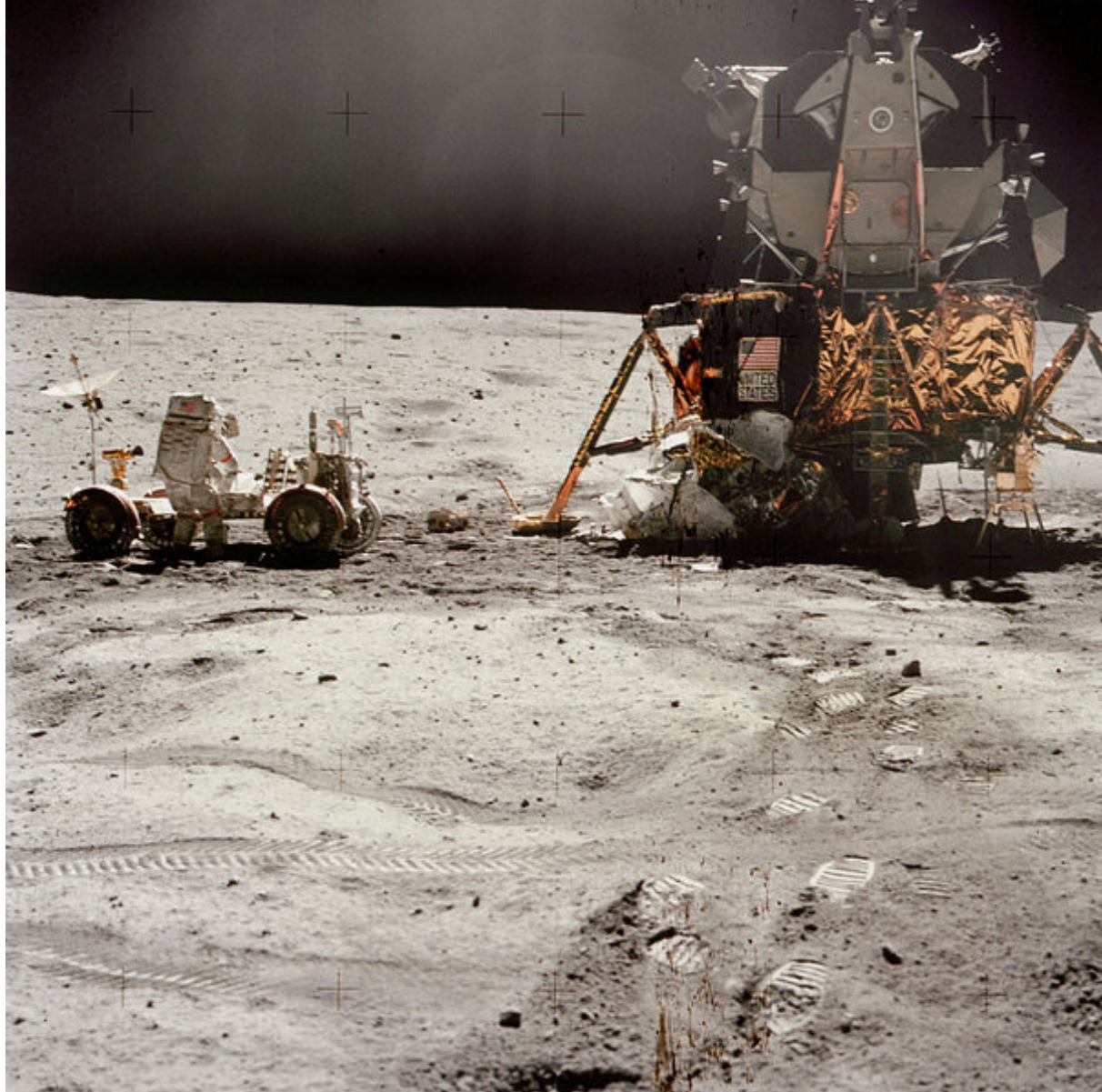
Diagram illustrating the production of  $^{59}\text{Ni}$  from iron isotopes. A blue arrow labeled  $\alpha$  points from  $^{56}\text{Fe}$  to  $^{59}\text{Ni}$ . Another blue arrow labeled  $n$  points from  $^{60}\text{Ni}$  to  $^{59}\text{Ni}$ .

avoid:



through low Co, Ni content



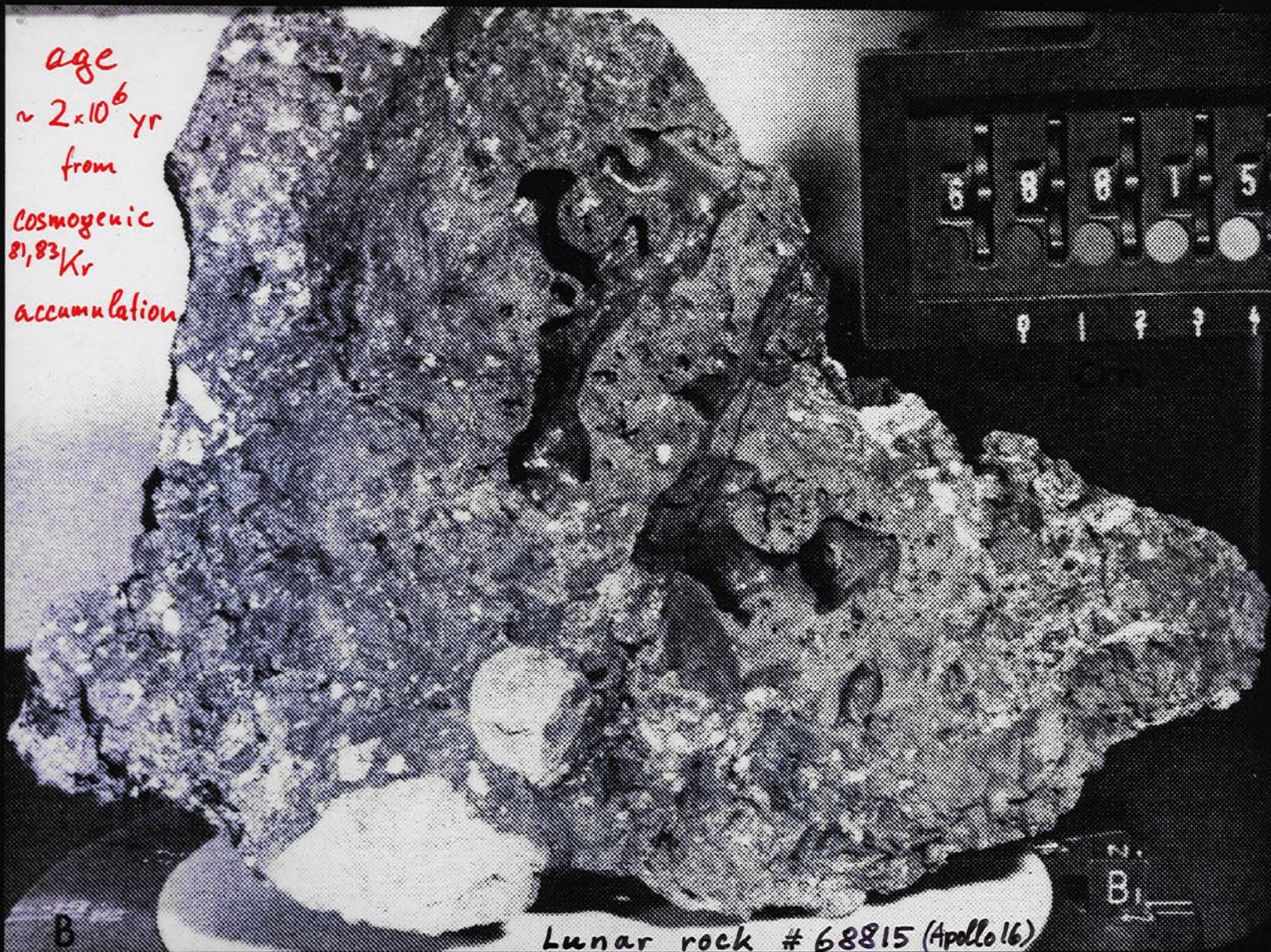


## **Apollo 16 flight to the Moon (16-27 April 1972)**

**Lunar Module Orion, with John W. Young working at the Lunar Rover**



age  
 $\approx 2 \times 10^6$  yr  
from  
cosmogenic  
 $^{81,83}\text{Kr}$   
accumulation



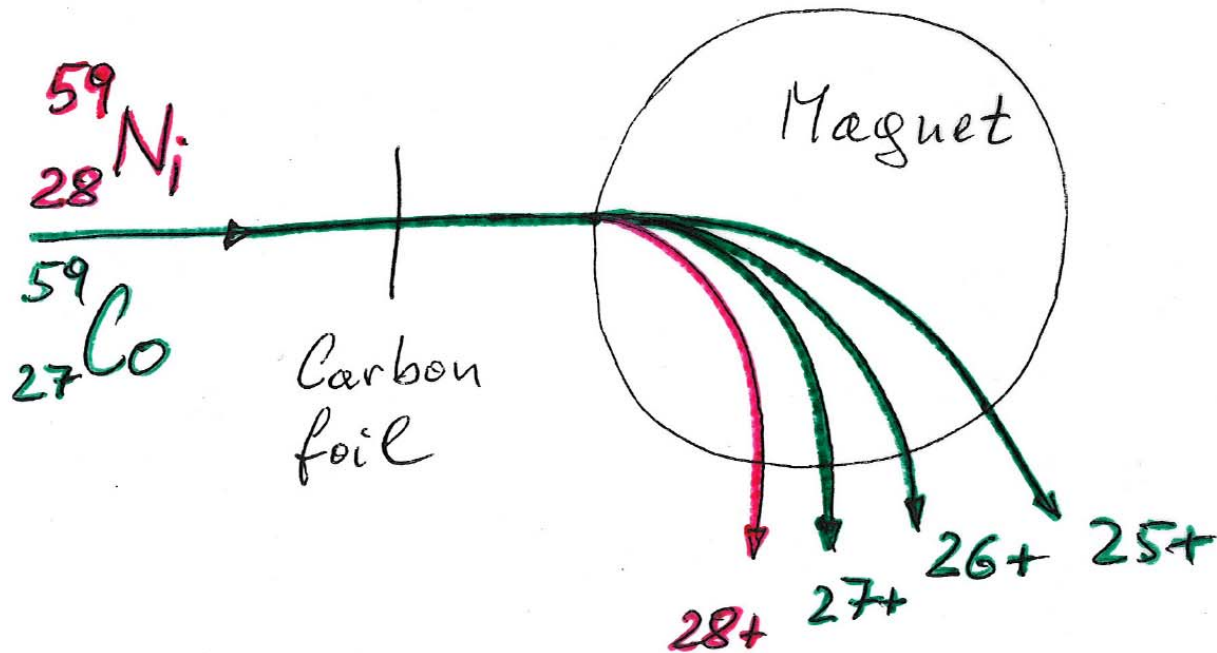
Lunar rock # 68815 (Apollo 16)



# Separation of $^{59}\text{Ni}$ from $^{59}\text{Co}$

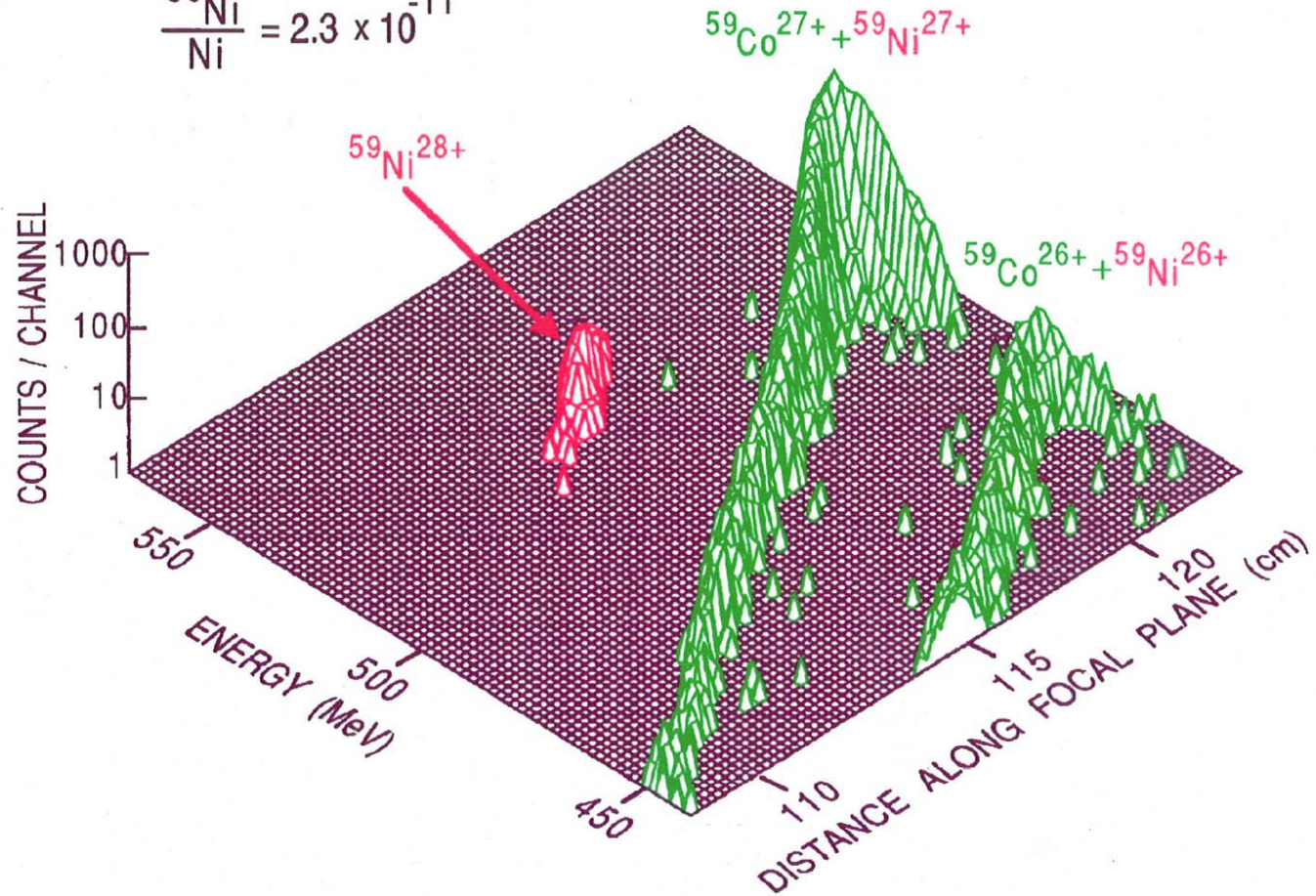
by full stripping

W. K. et al. NIM B 73 (1993) 403-412

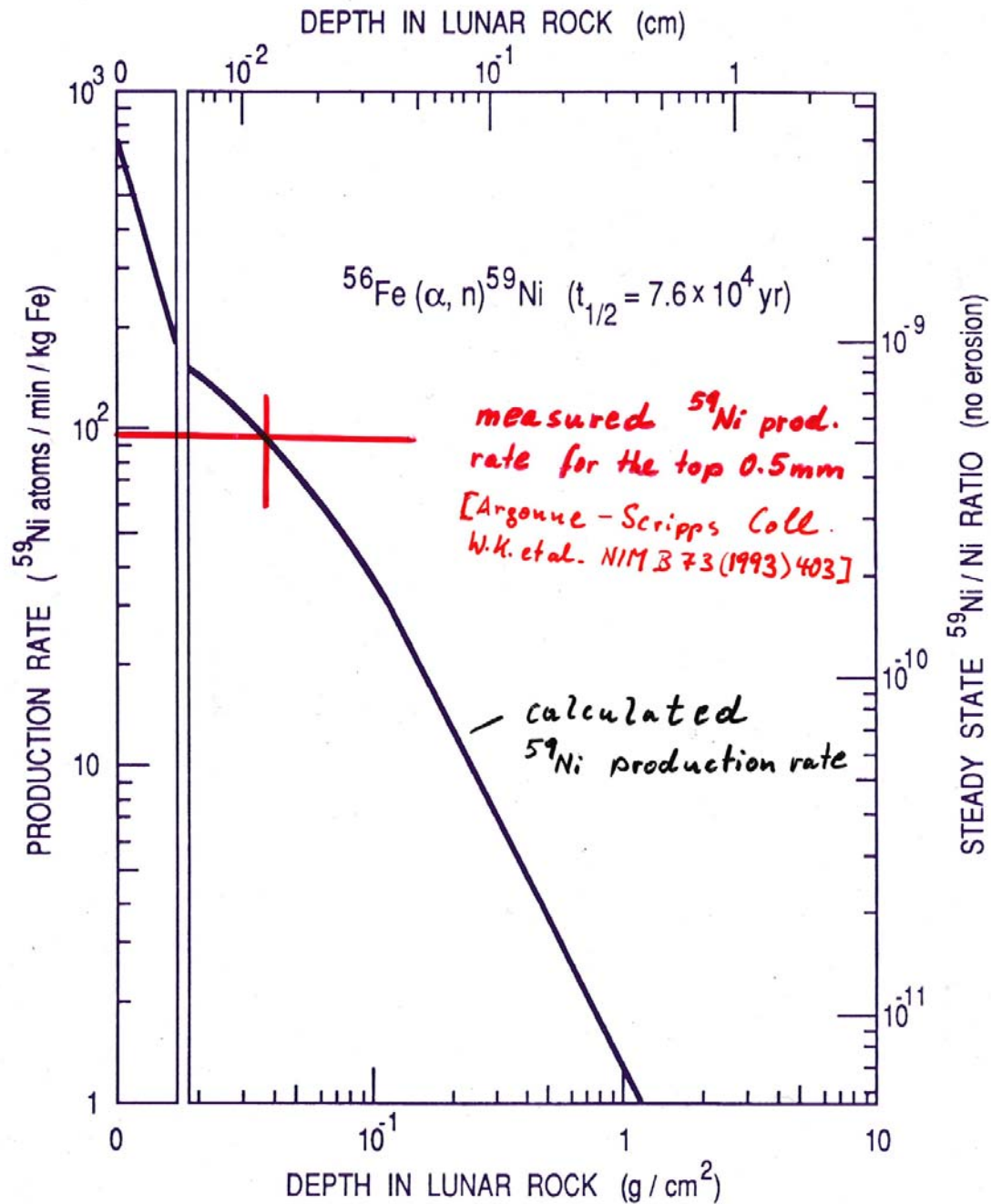


ADMIRE METEORITE

$$\frac{{}^{59}\text{Ni}}{{\text{Ni}}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-11}$$



Separation of  ${}^{59}\text{Ni}$  from  ${}^{59}\text{Co}$   
 by full stripping at  $E = 640 \text{ MeV}$

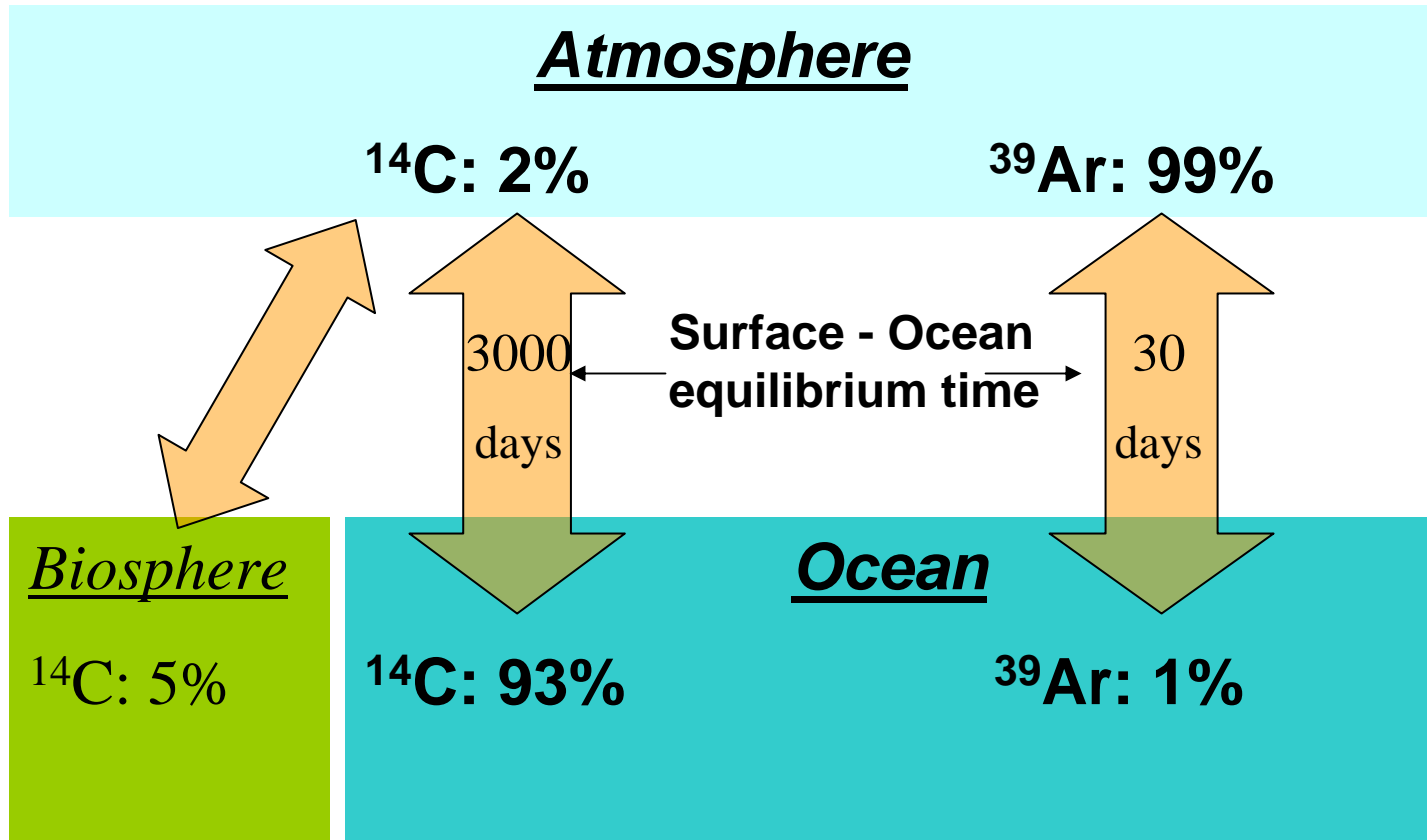


**$^{39}\text{Ar}$  ( $t_{1/2} = 269 \text{ yr}$ )**

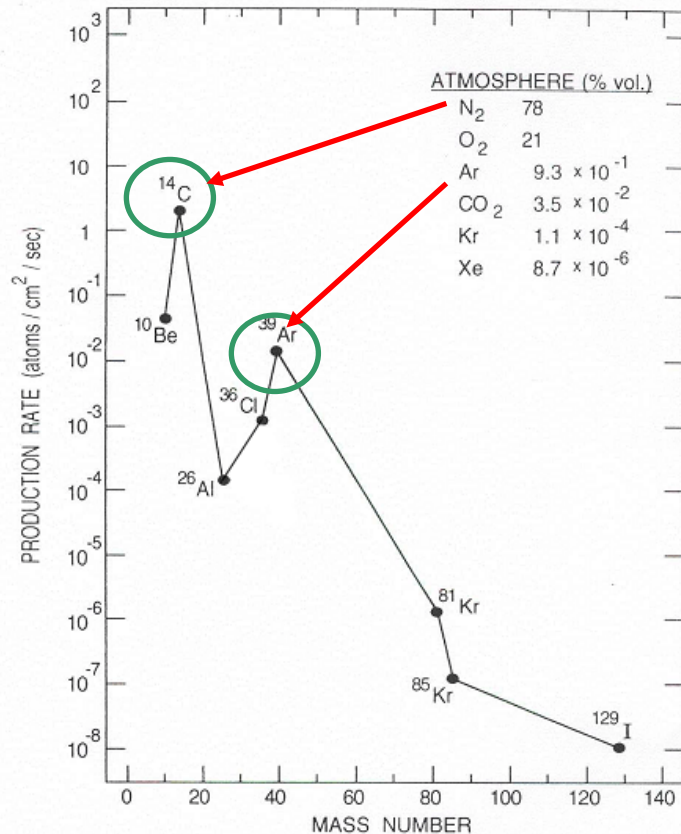
**the ideal tracer to study ocean dynamics**



# Studying the Dynamics of the Oceans with two different cosmogenic radioisotopes



# $^{14}\text{C}$ and $^{39}\text{Ar}$ key data



Production rate of long-lived cosmogenic radionuclides

## Half-life

$^{14}\text{C}$ : 5730 years

$^{39}\text{Ar}$ : 269 years

## Atmospheric isotope ratios

$^{14}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C} = 1.2 \times 10^{-12}$

$^{39}\text{Ar} / ^{40}\text{Ar} = 8.1 \times 10^{-16}$

## Ocean water concentrations

$^{14}\text{C}$ :  $1.8 \times 10^9$  atoms/litre → 0.4 decays/min

$^{39}\text{Ar}$ :  $6.5 \times 10^3$  atoms/litre → 17 decays/year

## Low Level Counting

$^{14}\text{C}$ : 250 litre H<sub>2</sub>O

$^{39}\text{Ar}$ : 1500 litre H<sub>2</sub>O

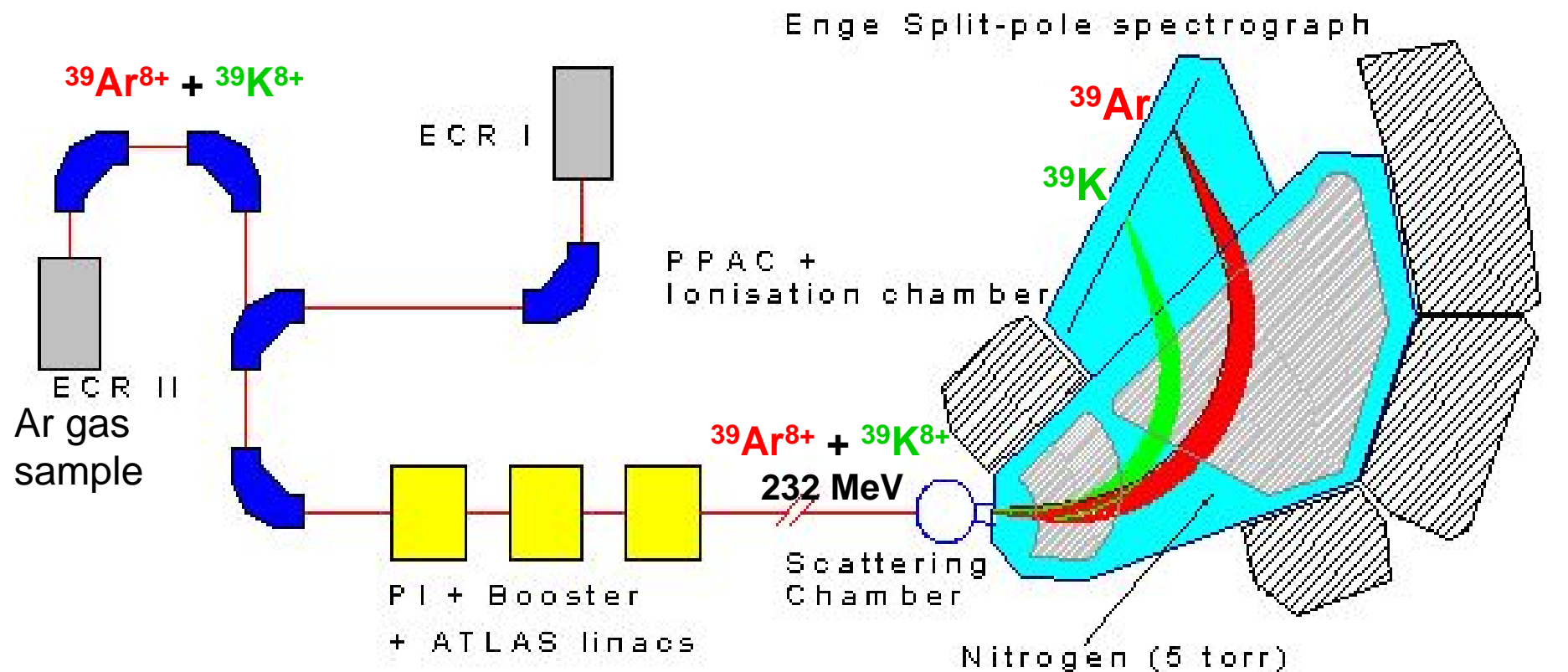
## AMS

0.5 litre H<sub>2</sub>O

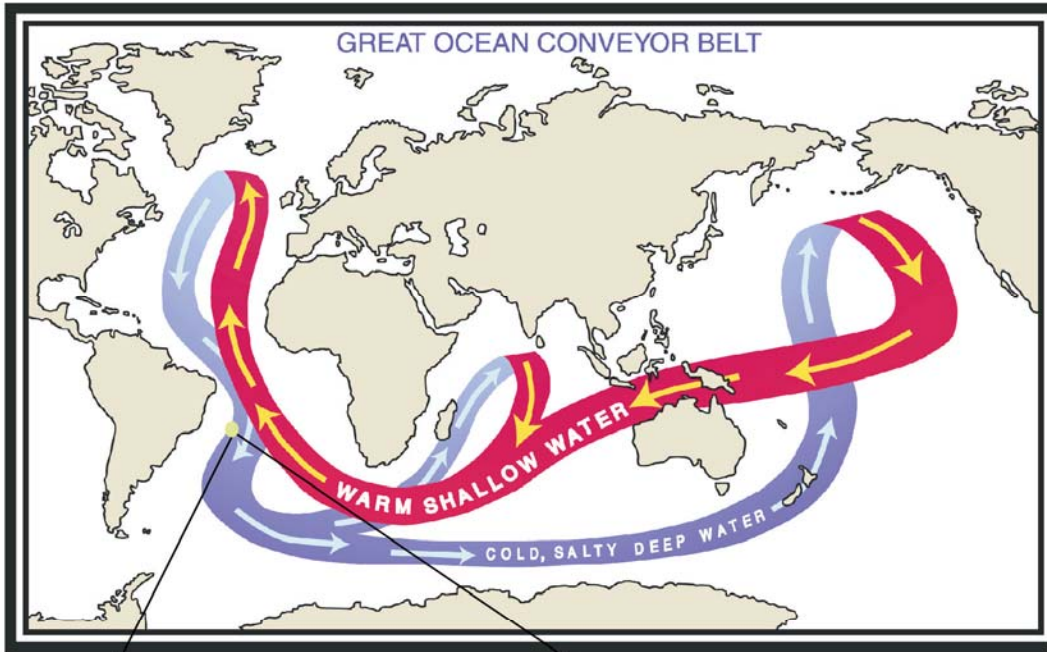
20 litre H<sub>2</sub>O ?

# $^{39}\text{Ar}$ detection with ATLAS

[P. Collon et al., *Nucl. Instr. Meth. B* 223-224 (2004) 428]



**Isobar separation of  $^{39}\text{Ar}$  (Z=18) from  $^{39}\text{K}$  (Z=19) in the gas-filled magnetic spectrograph**



## Dating of deep ocean water with $^{39}\text{Ar}$ ( $t_{1/2} = 269$ a) using AMS

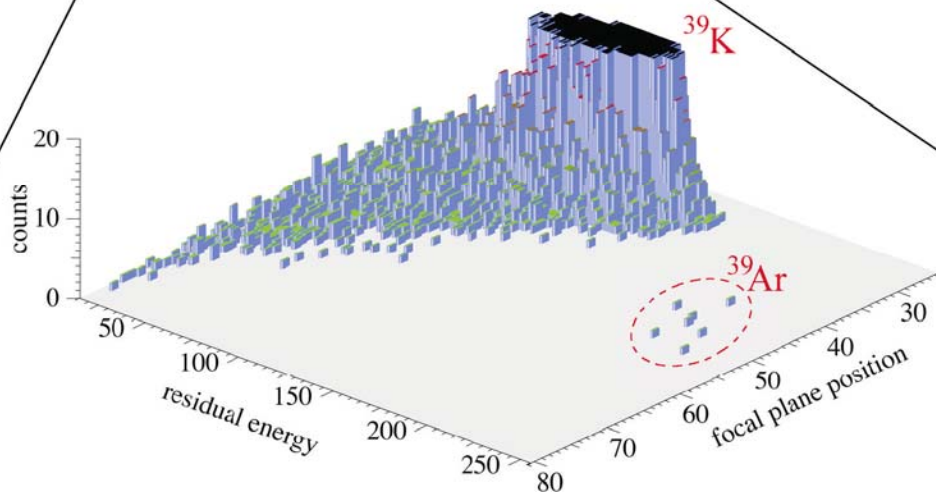
Sample: SAVE #95

Water depth = 4717 m

$$^{39}\text{Ar}/^{40}\text{Ar} = (2.6 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-16}$$

= 32% atmospheric Ar

“Age“ (decay) = 440 years



*P. Collon, T.-Z. Lu, W. K. Ann.Rev. Nucl.Part. Sci. 54 (2004) 39-67*

## Results of $^{39}\text{Ar}/^{40}\text{Ar}$ measurements at Argonne

Sample	$^{39}\text{Ar}/^{40}\text{Ar}$ ( $10^{-16}$ )	Fraction of atm. argon*	“Decay age“ (years)
Neutron activated argon	$580 \pm 40$		
Atmospheric argon	$7.7 \pm 0.9$	95%	
South Atlantic Ventilation Experiment			
#294, water depth = 850 m	$5.2 \pm 0.7$	65%	170
#294, water depth = 5000 m	$3.5 \pm 0.6$	44%	320
#95, water depth = 4717 m	$2.6 \pm 0.6$	32%	440
Great Artesian Basin, Australia, Watson creek well, ground water (0.4 Myr)	$0.4 \pm 0.2$	5%	1200
Atmospheric argon*	$8.5 \pm 1.2$	105%	
Neutron activated argon	$600 \pm 40$		

\*Normalized to  $^{39}\text{Ar}/^{40}\text{Ar} = 8.1 \times 10^{-16} = 100\%$ , measured by Low Level Counting (Loosli)

# Pushing the detection limit of $^{39}\text{Ar}$ into the realm of interest for dark matter searches with liquid argon

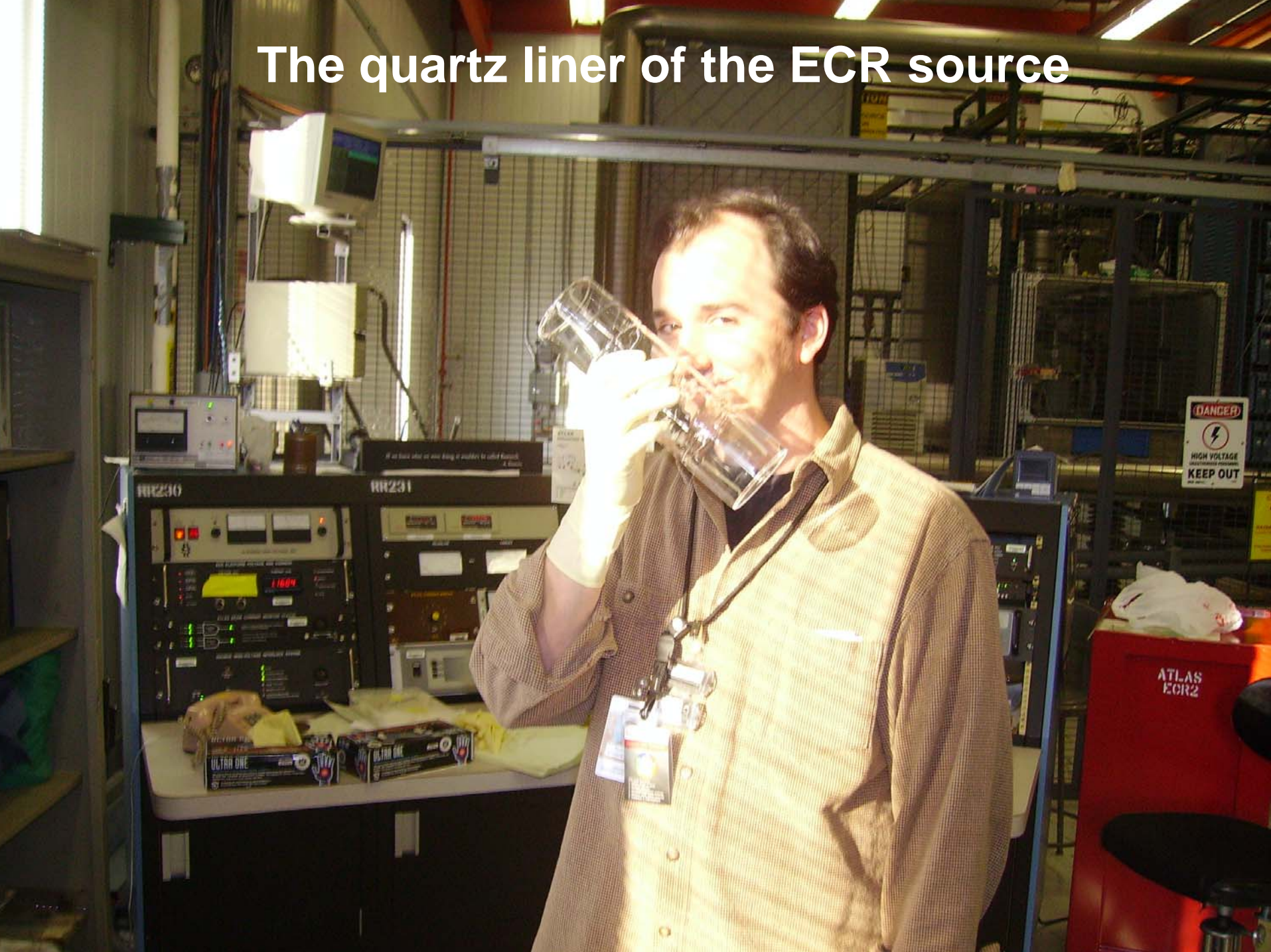
Desired (F. Calaprice, Princeton):

$$^{39}\text{Ar}/\text{Ar} \sim 10^{-3} \times (^{39}\text{Ar}/\text{Ar})_{\text{atmosphere}} \sim 1 \times 10^{-18}$$

A lost battle against the isobaric background of  $^{41}\text{K}$

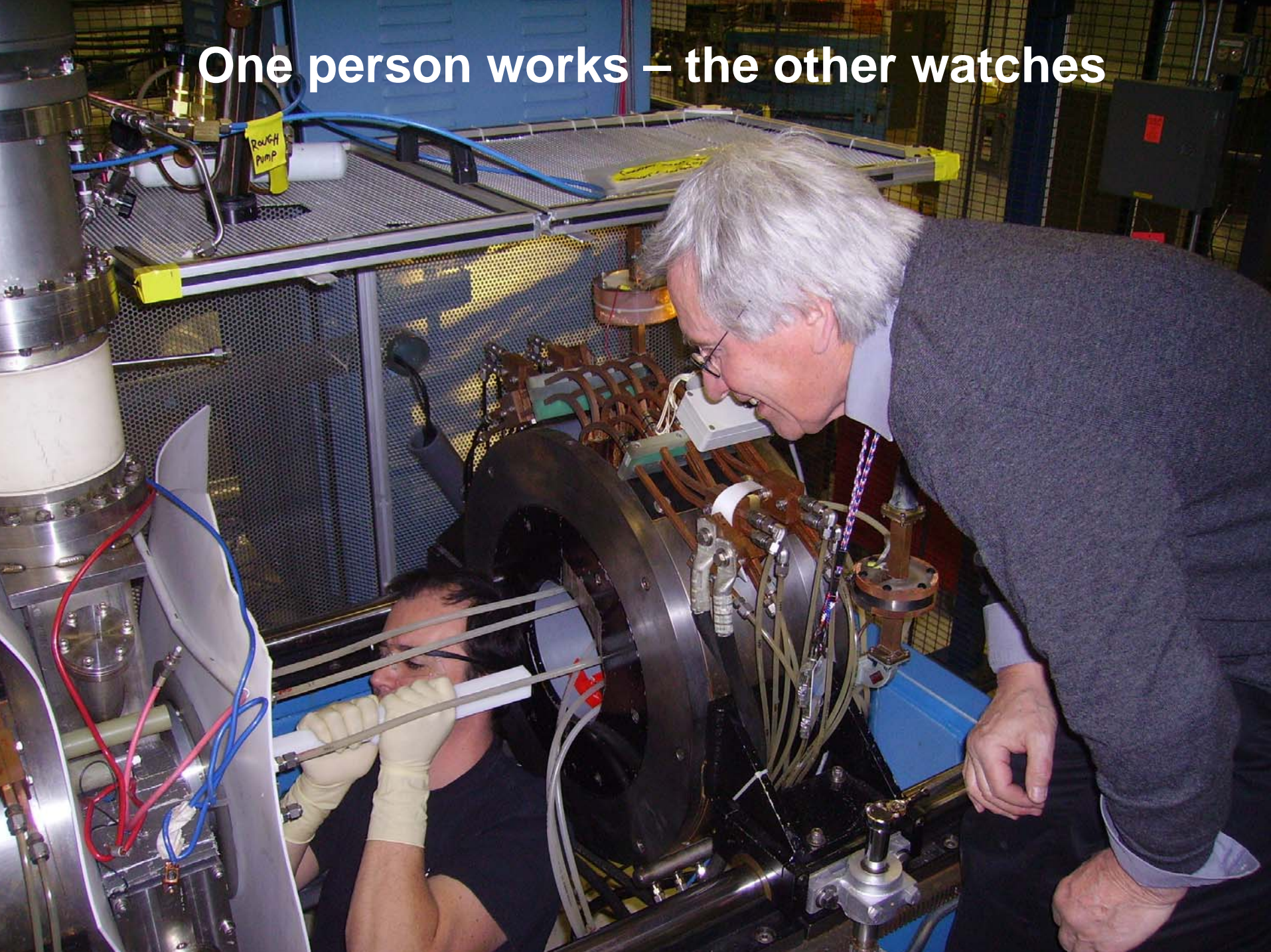


# The quartz liner of the ECR source





One person works – the other watches



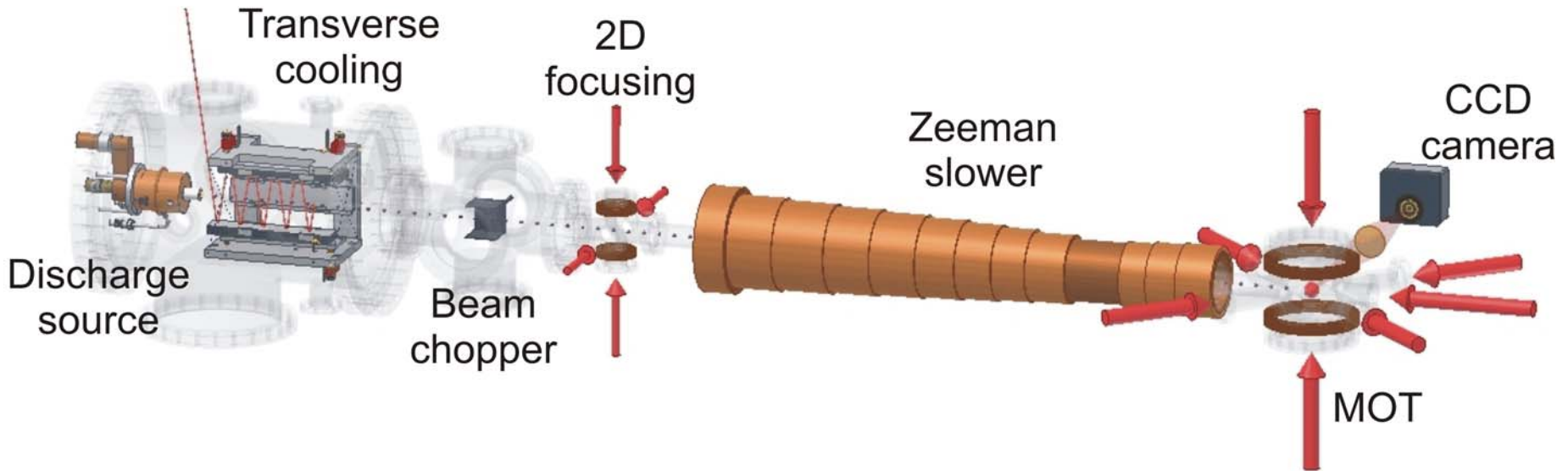


Sometimes things just don't work out



## The future:

$^{39}\text{Ar}$  detection with the magneto optical trap technique (P. Mueller, Z.-T. Lu et al.)



**Once you cross the ocean,  
You are forever on the wrong side.**

***Victor Weisskopf***