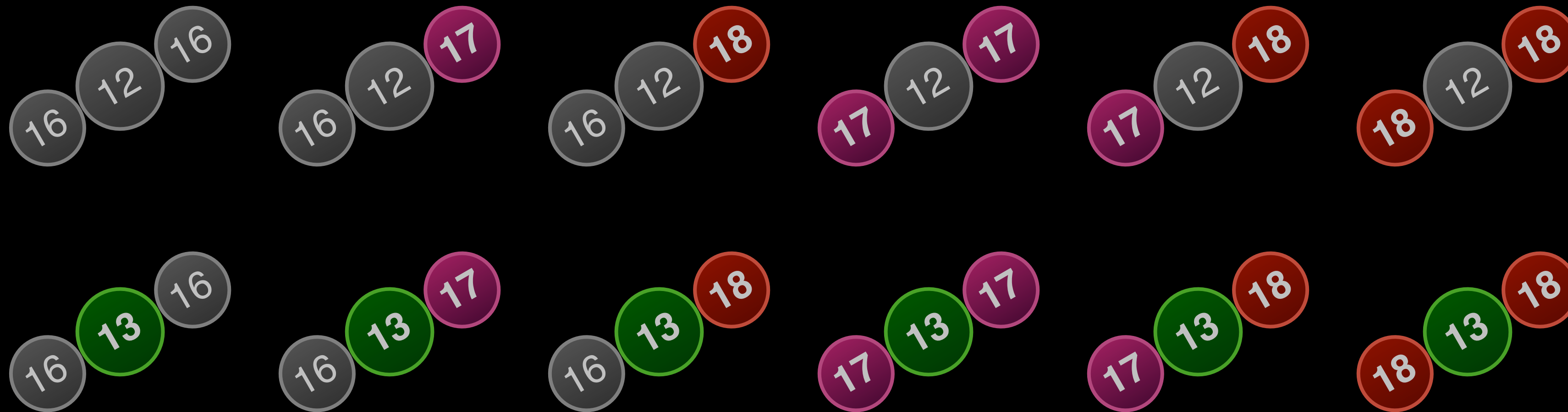


# Accélération contre rovibrations

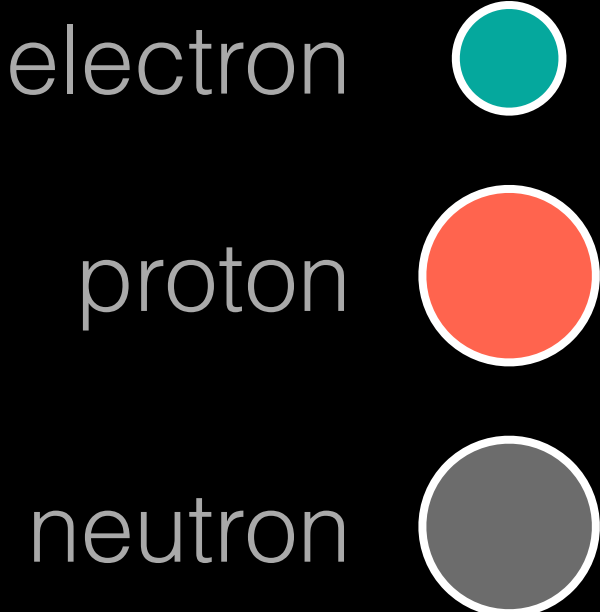
quand la spectroscopie infra-rouge vient bousculer la géochimie


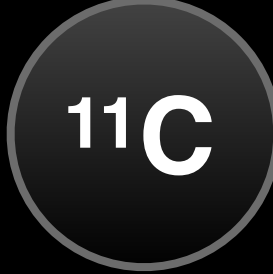

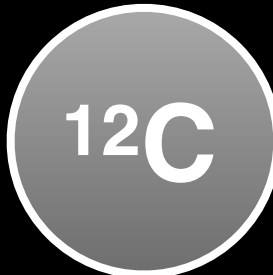



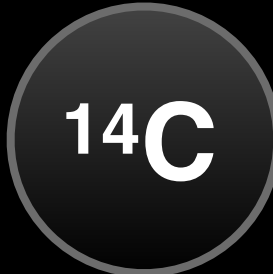



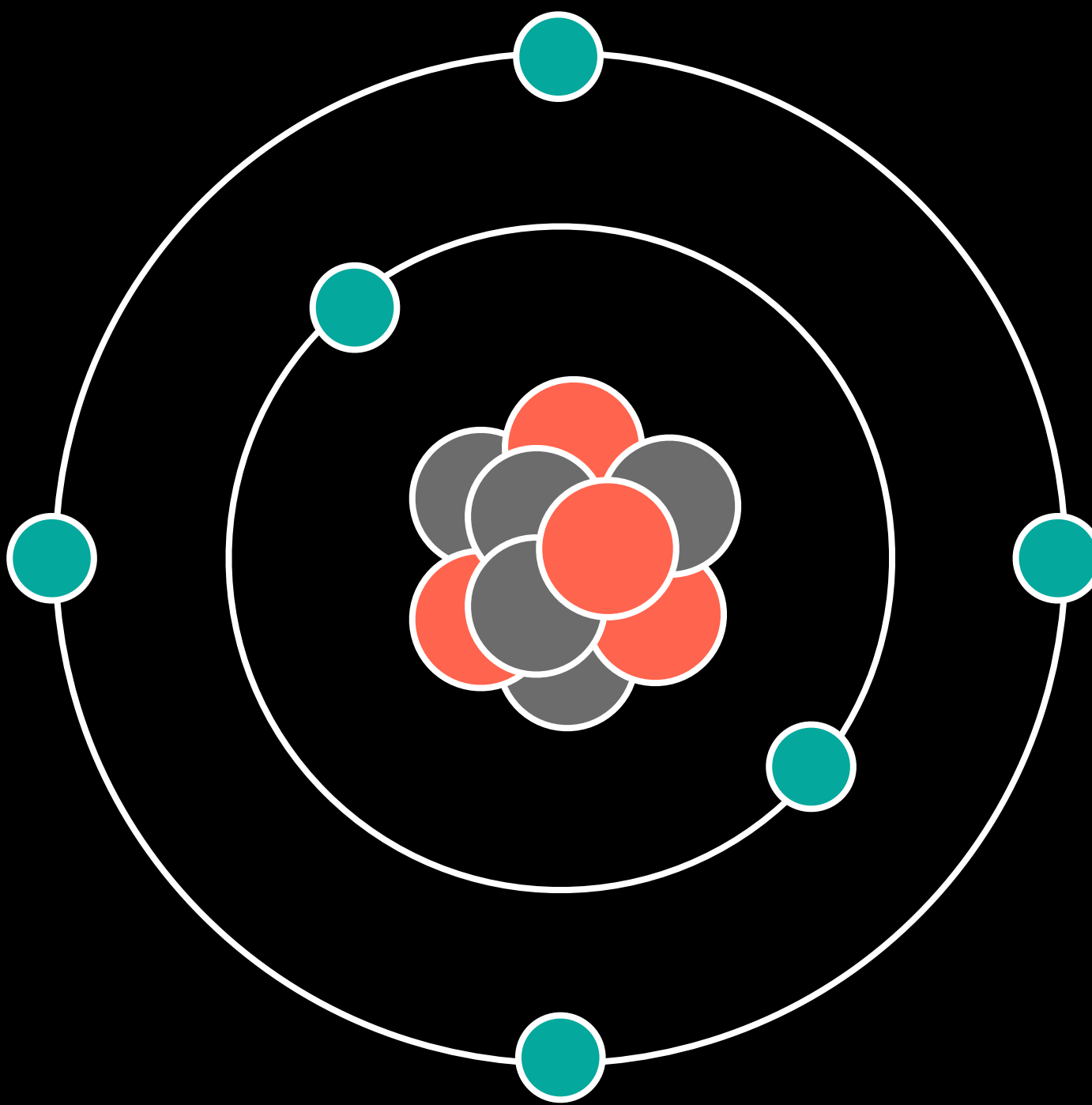
**M. Daëron**

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique  
Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement

# Stable vs radiogenic isotopes

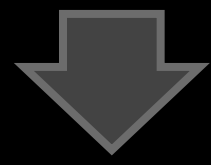


half-life = 2 mn			half-life = 20 mn
stable			stable
stable			stable
stable			half-life = 57 ka
half-life = 28 s			





CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphérique

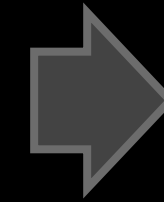


matière organique



– 330 millions d'années

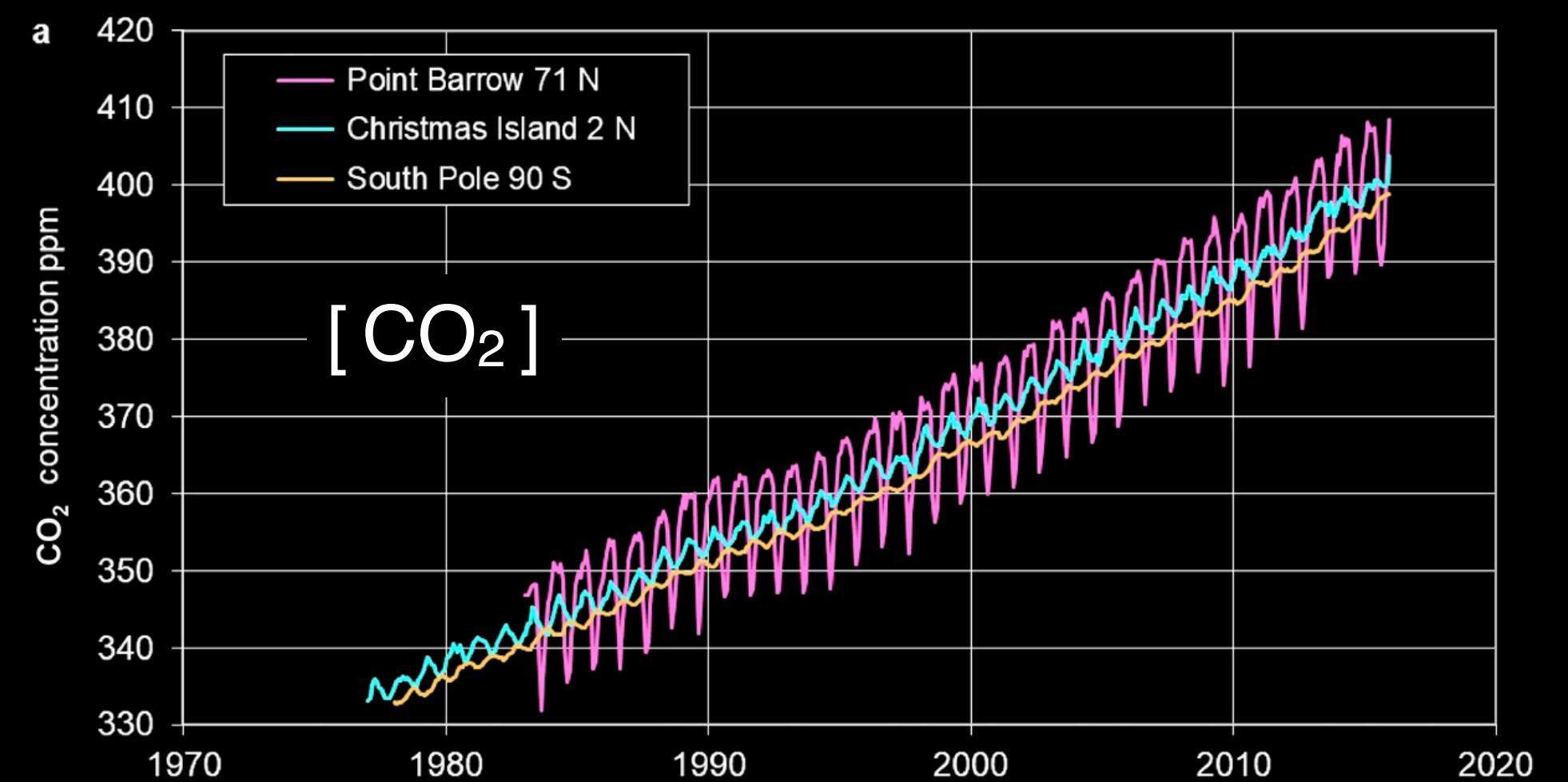
# Géochimie des isotopes stables: pourquoi ?



CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphérique

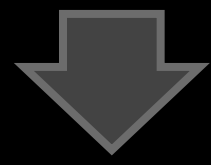


2025





CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphérique

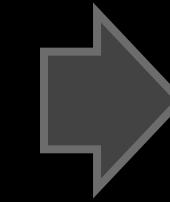


matière organique



– 330 millions d'années

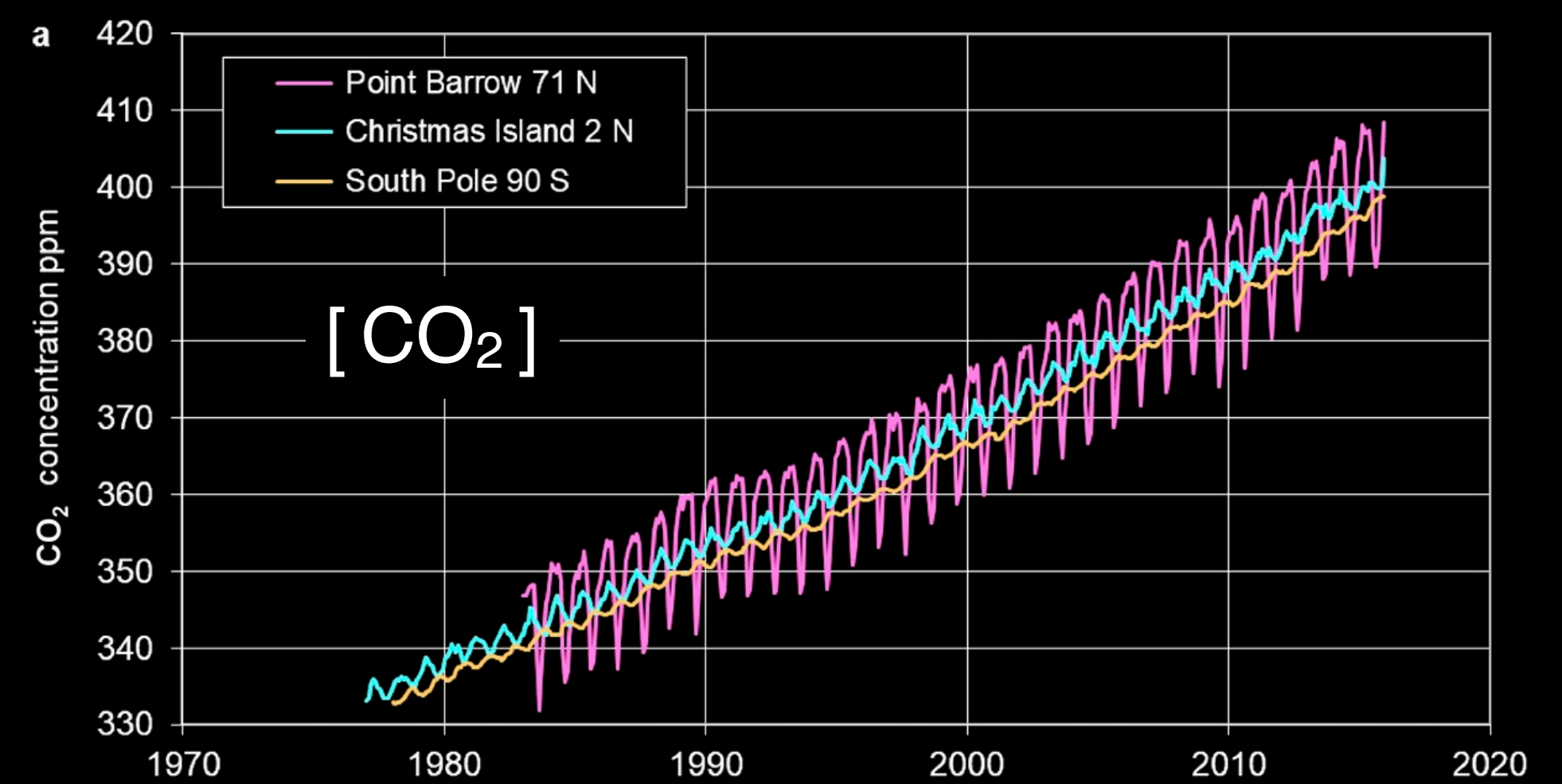
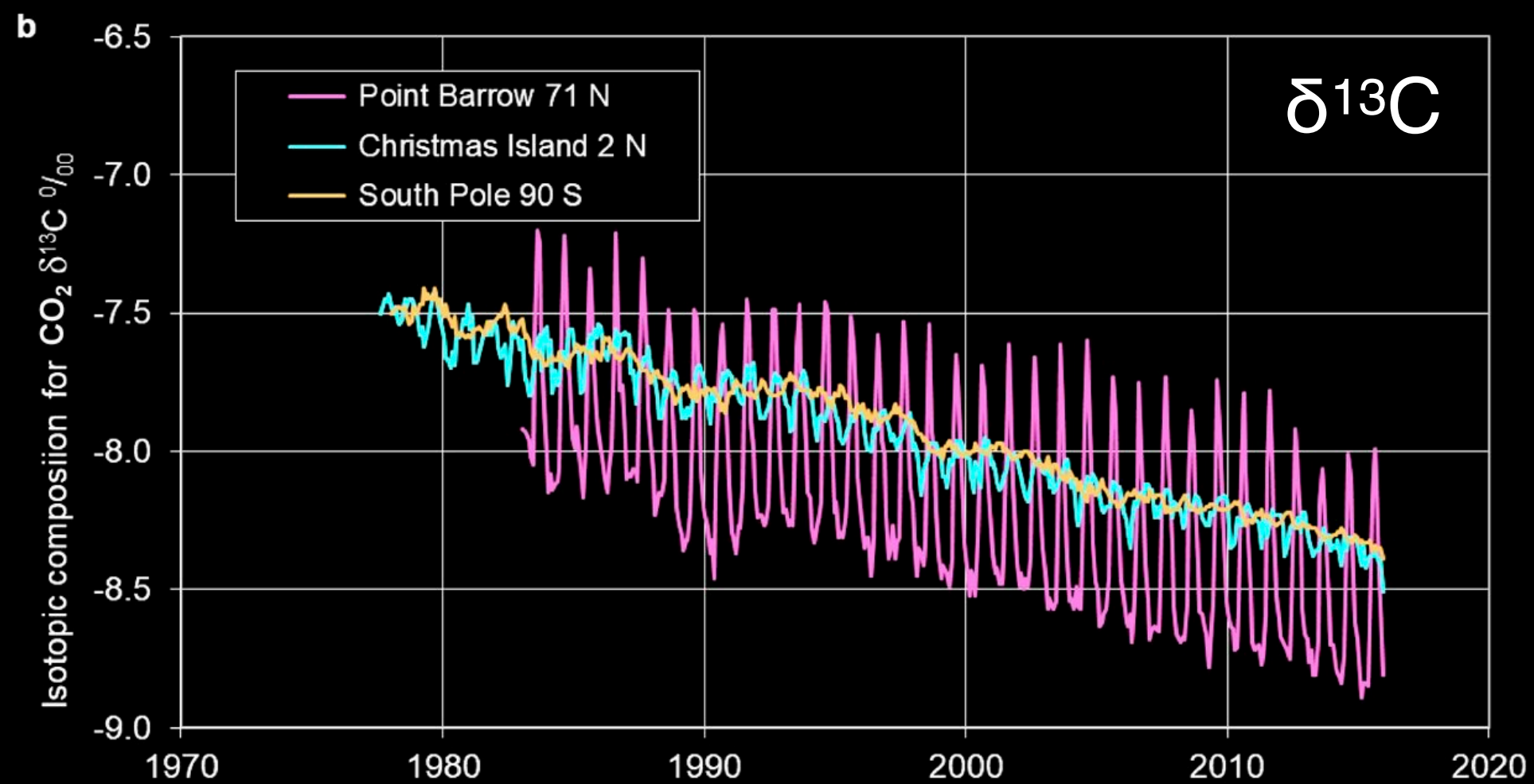
# Géochimie des isotopes stables: pourquoi ?



CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphérique



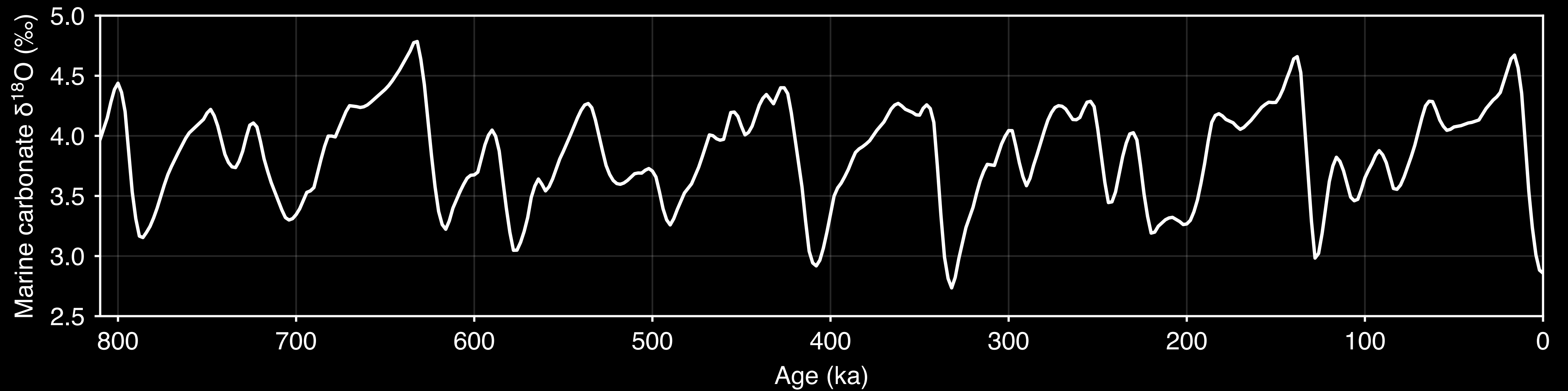
2025







$$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}} = \frac{(^{18}\text{O} / ^{16}\text{O})_{\text{carbonate}}}{(^{18}\text{O} / ^{16}\text{O})_{\text{reference}}} - 1$$







$$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{carbonate}} = \frac{(^{18}\text{O} / ^{16}\text{O})_{\text{carbonate}}}{(^{18}\text{O} / ^{16}\text{O})_{\text{reference}}} - 1 \approx \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{seawater}} - bT + a$$

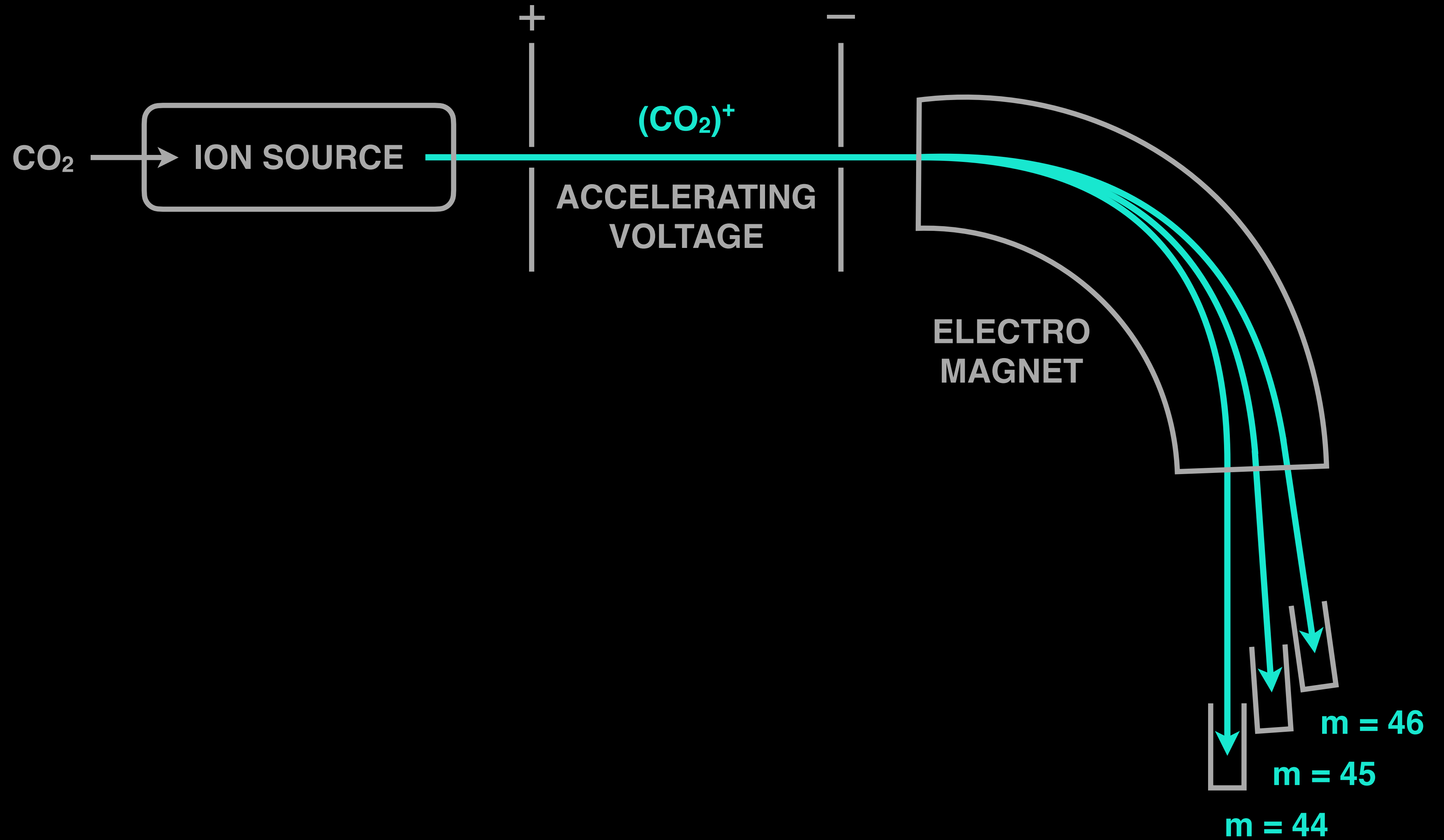
période glaciaire :     $\uparrow \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$      $\downarrow T$      $\Rightarrow$      $\uparrow \delta^{18}\text{O}_c$   
 période inter-glaciaire :     $\downarrow \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sw}}$      $\uparrow T$      $\Rightarrow$      $\downarrow \delta^{18}\text{O}_c$

Validation de la théorie de Milanković : variations d'insolation  $\Rightarrow$  cycles glaciaires



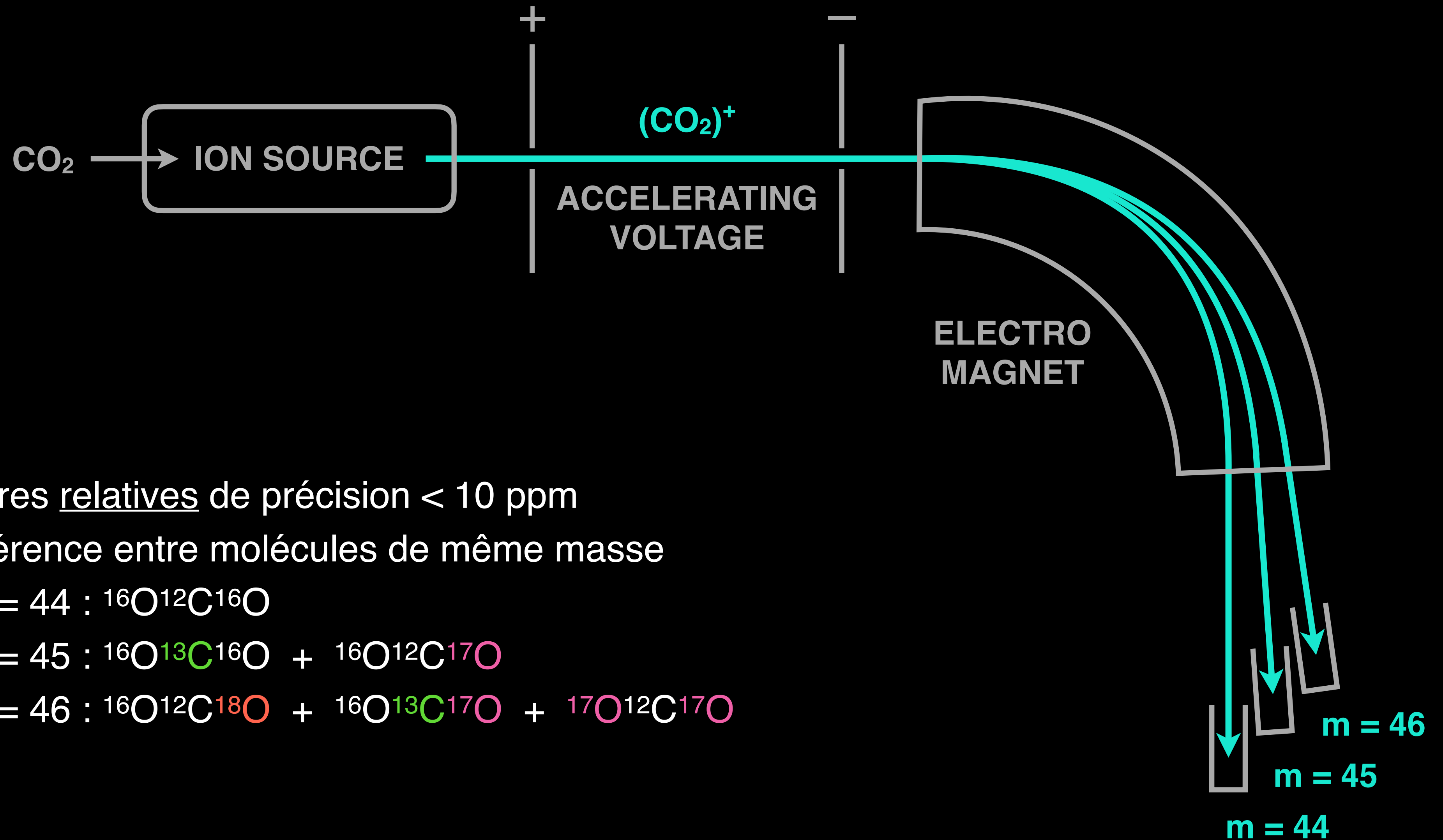


# IRMS: Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry










# IRMS: Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry





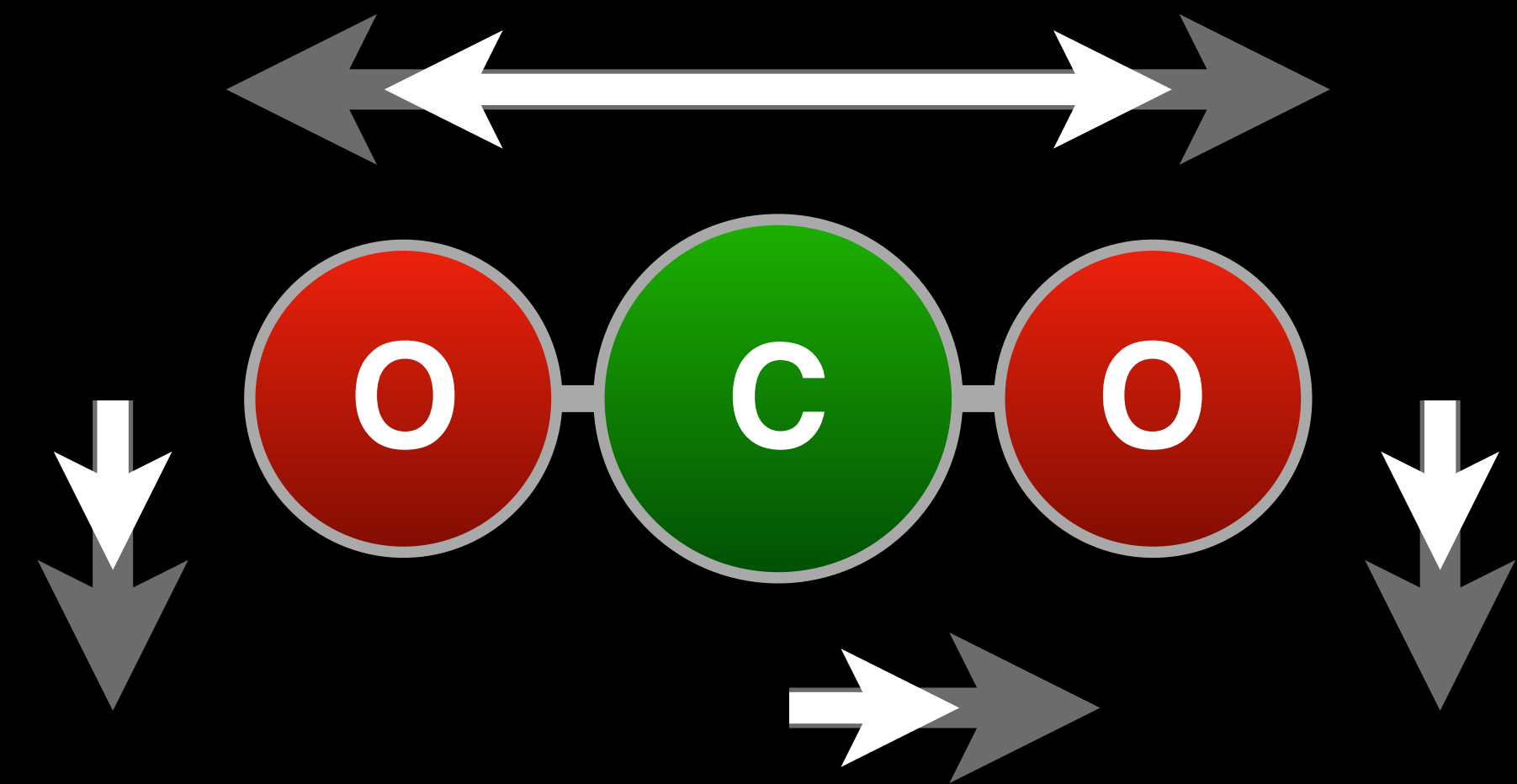
# Stable isotope quantities of interest for CO<sub>2</sub>

	$m = 45, x \approx 1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	} $\delta^{13}\text{C} + \delta^{18}\text{O}$ (since ~1950, $\sigma = 10\text{--}50$ ppm)
	$m = 46, x \approx 4 \cdot 10^{-3}$	
	$m = 45, x \approx 8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ (since ~2010, $\sigma \approx 10$ ppm)
	$m = 47, x \approx 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\Delta_{47}$ (since ~2010, $\sigma \approx 10$ ppm)
	$m = 48, x \approx 4 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$\Delta_{48}$ (since ~2020, $\sigma \approx 30$ ppm)



# Spectroscopic measurements of isotopic abundances

- Many molecules absorb infra-red photons with quantified energy levels.
- These levels corresponding to transitions between rovibrational modes of excitation.
- Absorbed wavelengths depend on the distribution of mass rather than total molecular mass.



2004

Handbook of Stable Isotope Analytical Techniques, Volume-I  
P.A. de Groot (Editor)  
© 2004 Elsevier B.V. All rights reserved.

## CHAPTER 34

### Isotope Ratio Infrared Spectrometry

Erik Kerstel

Center for Isotope Research, Department of Physics, University of Groningen, The Netherlands  
e-mail: kerstel@phys.rug.nl

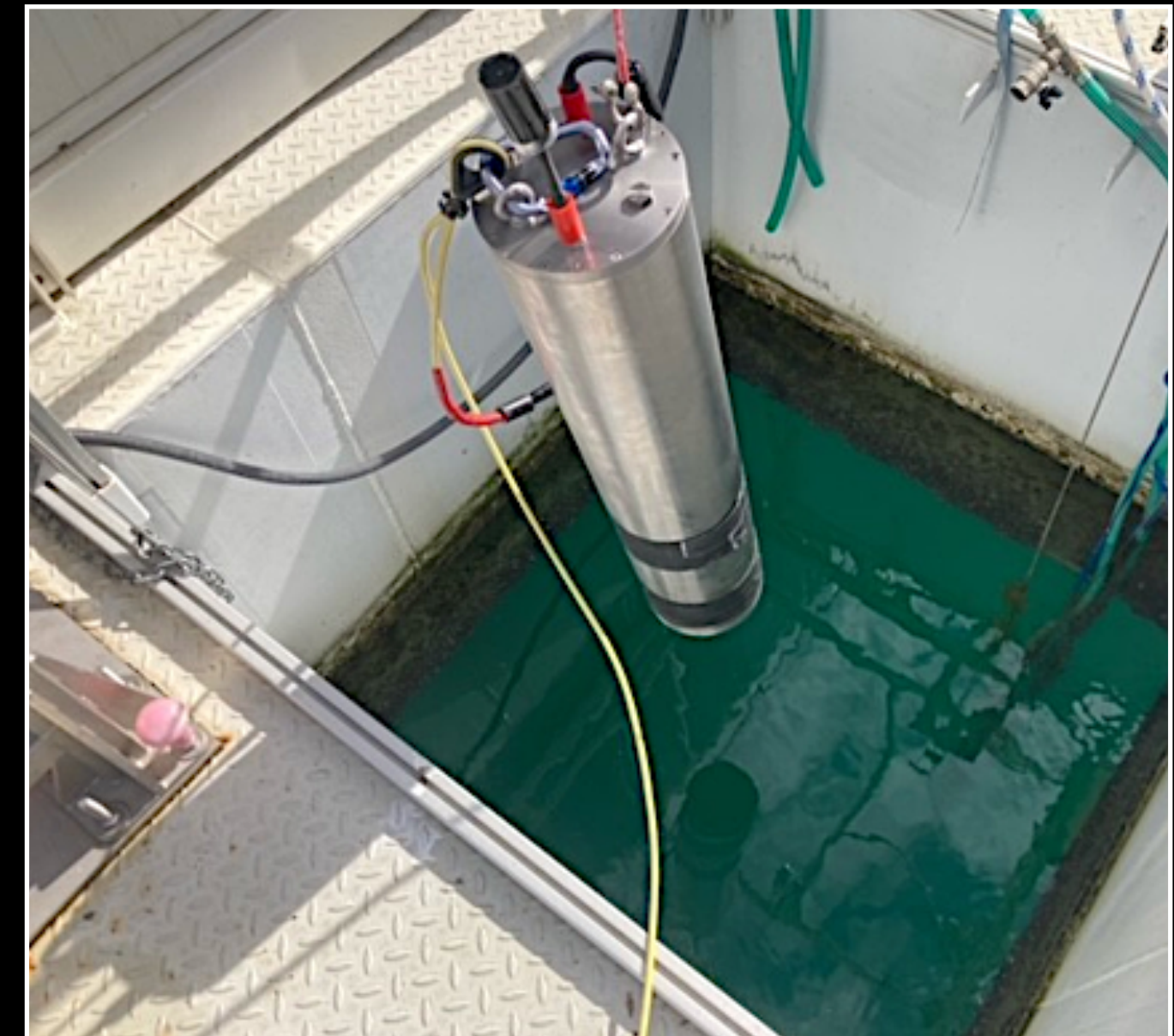


# Direct measurements in the field

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ,  $\delta^2\text{H}$ ...



Infrastructure européenne d'observation  
des gaz à effet de serre



cf présentation d'Axel Wohleber  
cet après-midi



# Faster measurements in the lab

16 13 18



Tunable Infrared Laser  
Direct Absorption Spectroscopy  
(TILDAS, Aerodyne)

2022

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH RESOURCE

## GEOCHEMISTRY

### Rapid and precise measurement of carbonate clumped isotopes using laser spectroscopy

Nitzan Yanay<sup>1\*</sup>, Zhennan Wang<sup>1</sup>, David L. Dettman<sup>1,2</sup>, Jay Quade<sup>1</sup>, Katharine W. Huntington<sup>3</sup>, Andrew J. Schauer<sup>3</sup>, David D. Nelson<sup>4</sup>, J. Barry McManus<sup>4</sup>, Kaustubh Thirumalai<sup>1</sup>, Saburo Sakai<sup>5</sup>, Anna Rebaza Morillo<sup>1</sup>, Ananya Mallik<sup>1</sup>

Carbonate clumped isotope abundance is an important paleothermometer, but measurement is difficult, slow, and subject to cardinal mass ( $m/z$ ) interferences using isotope ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS). Here, we describe an optical spectroscopic measurement of carbonate clumped isotopes. We have adapted a tunable infrared laser differential absorption spectrometer (TILDAS) system to measure the abundances of four CO<sub>2</sub> isotopologues used for clumped isotope thermometry. TILDAS achieves the same precision (0.01‰ SE) as IRMS measurements rapidly (~50 min per carbonate analysis) and using small samples (<2 mg of calcite), without making assumptions about <sup>17</sup>O abundance in the sample. A temperature calibration based on 406 analyses of CO<sub>2</sub> produced by digestion of 51 synthetic carbonates equilibrated at 6° to 1100°C is consistent with results for natural carbonates and previous calibrations. Our system results were indistinguishable from IRMS systems after replicating the InterCarb inter-laboratory calibration. Measurement by TILDAS could change the landscape for clumped isotope analysis.

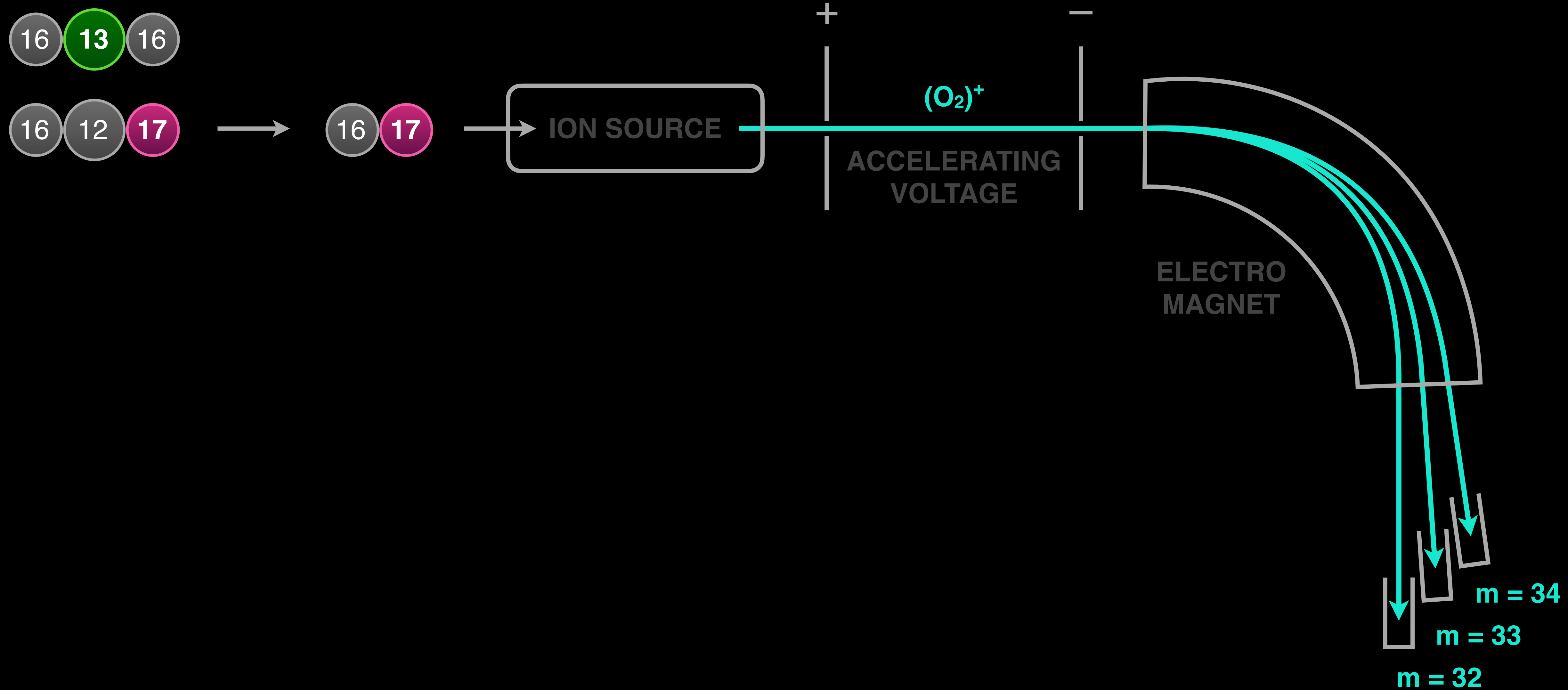
# Previously challenging measurements (e.g., $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ of $\text{CO}_2$ )

16 13 16

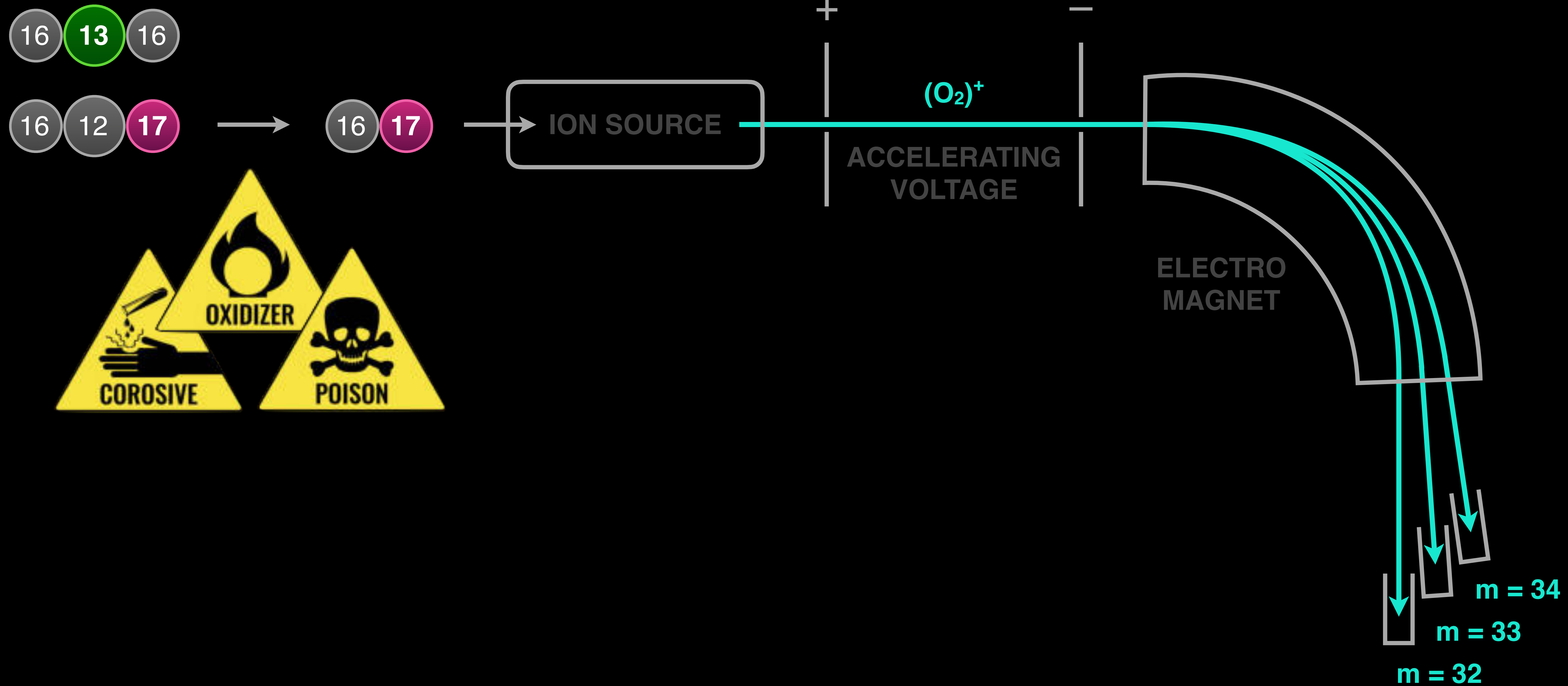
16 12 17



# Previously challenging measurements (e.g., $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ of $\text{CO}_2$ )



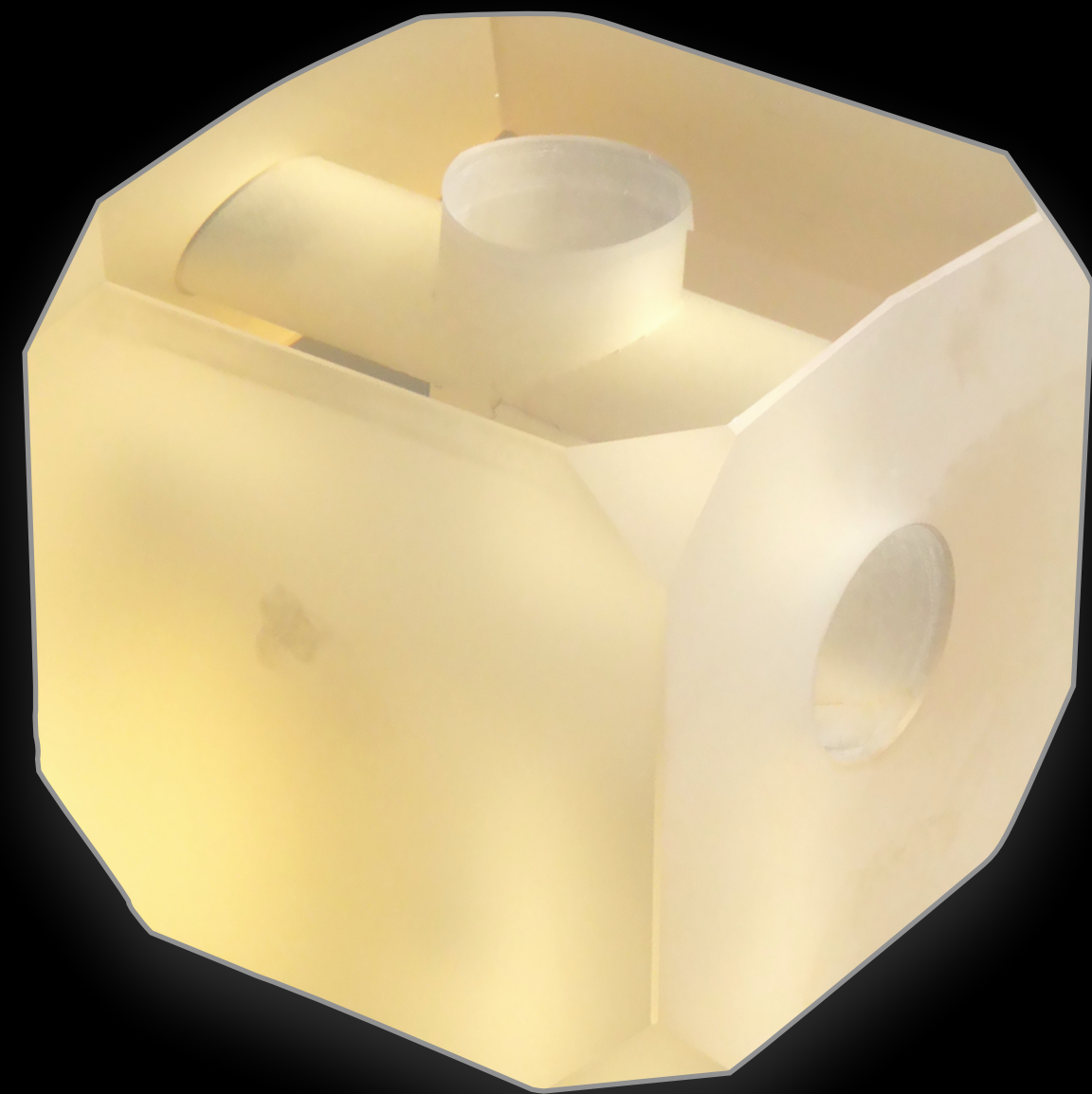
# Previously challenging measurements (e.g., $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ of $\text{CO}_2$ )





# Previously challenging measurements (e.g., $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ of $\text{CO}_2$ )

16 12 17



V-Cavity Optical Feedback  
Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy  
(VCOF-CRDS, LIPhy-LSCE)

2025

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

**Chemical Geology**

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/chemgeo](https://www.elsevier.com/locate/chemgeo)

**Linking the oxygen-17 compositions of water and carbonate reference materials using infrared absorption spectroscopy of carbon dioxide**

Justin Chaillot <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Samir Kassi <sup>b</sup>, Thibault Clauzel <sup>a</sup>, Marie Pesnin <sup>a</sup>, Mathieu Casado <sup>a</sup>, Amaëlle Landais <sup>a</sup>, Mathieu Daëron <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement, LSCE/IPSL, CEA-CNRS-UVSQ, Université Paris-Saclay, France  
<sup>b</sup> Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire de Physique (LIPhy), Université Grenoble Alpes, CNRS, Grenoble, France

**ARTICLE INFO**

Editor: Don Porcelli

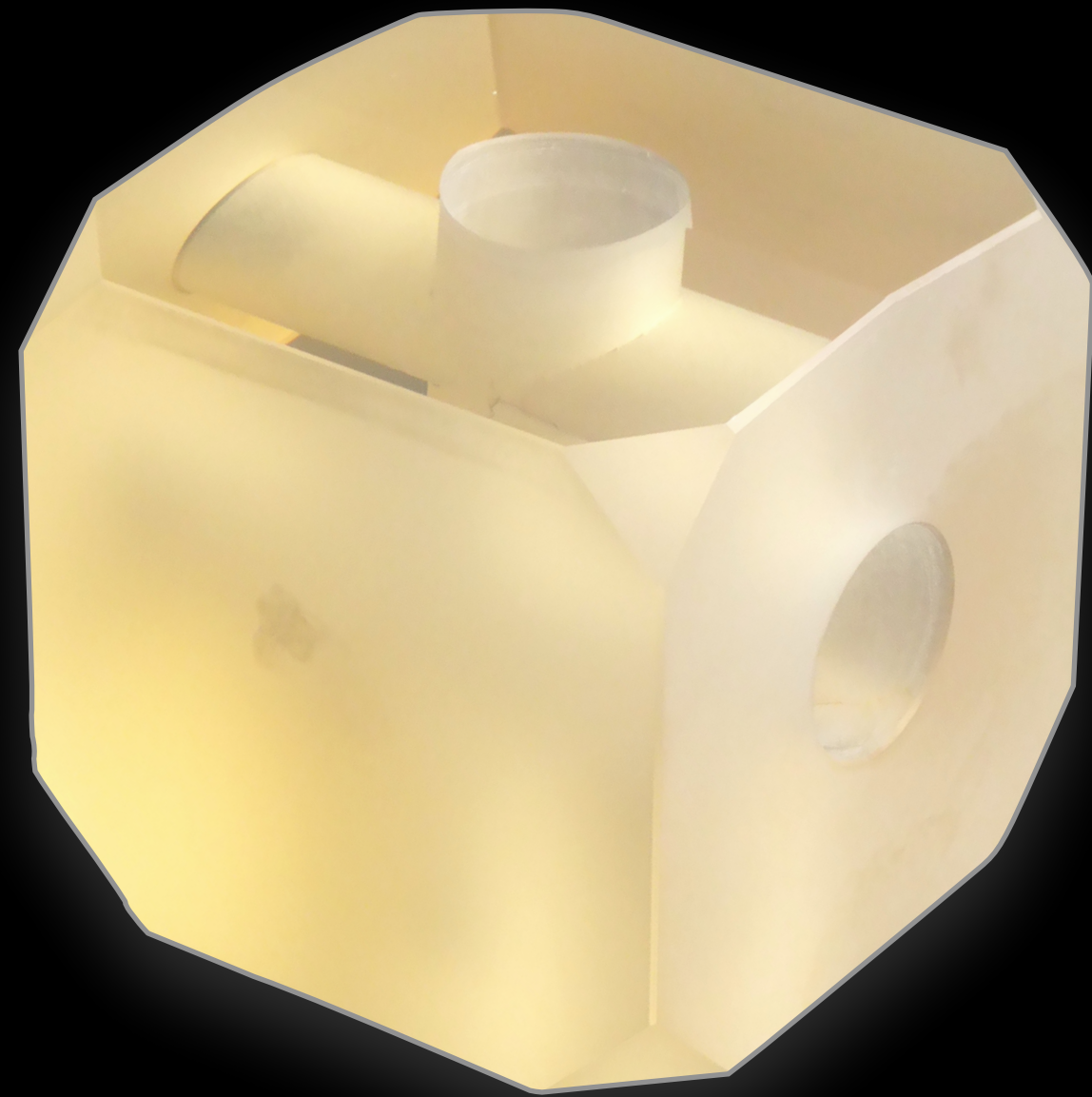
**Keywords:**  
Triple oxygen isotope  
VCOF CRDS  
Laser spectroscopy  
International reference materials

**ABSTRACT**

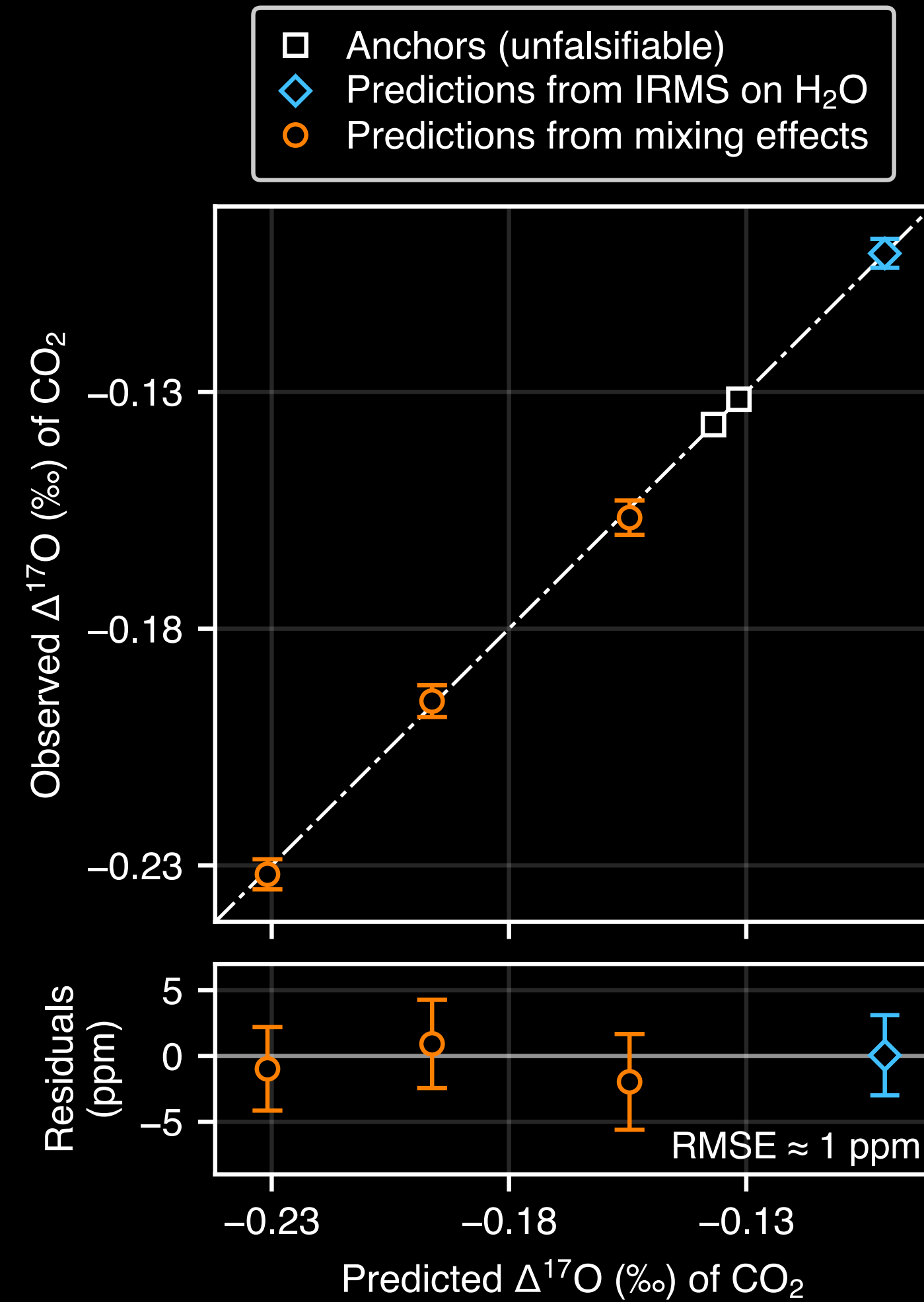
Joint measurements of the  $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$  and  $^{17}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$  ratios of carbonate minerals and waters are increasingly used to investigate various geochemical, physical and biological processes. Diverse analytical methods, each of them technically challenging in one way or another, have been developed or refined in recent years to measure oxygen-17 anomalies ( $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ ) with instrumental precisions of 10 ppm or better. A critical underpinning of these methods is how the international carbonate reference materials used for calibration and validation on this scale are linked to the primary VSMOW carbonate reference materials.

# Previously challenging measurements (e.g., $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ of $\text{CO}_2$ )

16 12 17

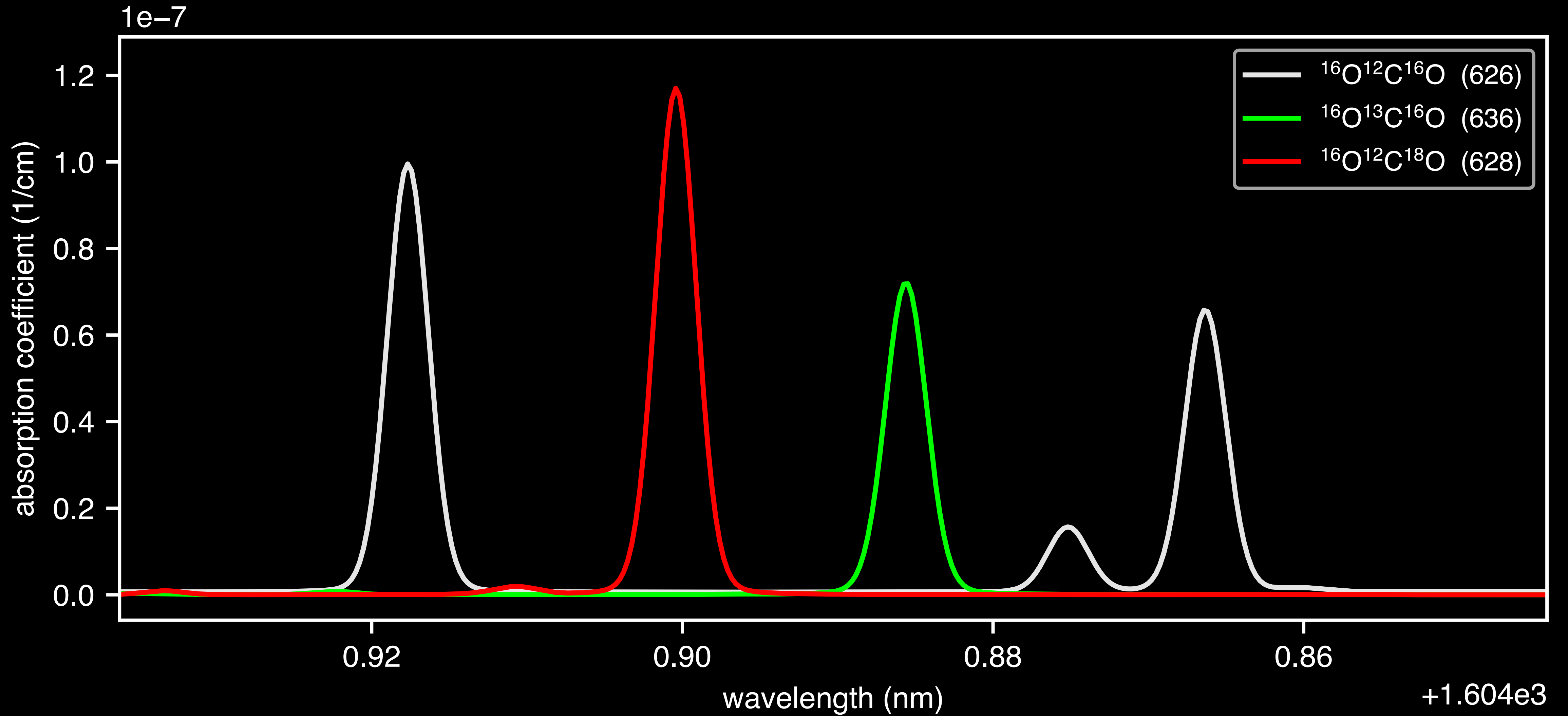


V-Cavity Optical Feedback  
Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy  
(VCOF-CRDS, LIPhy-LSCE)

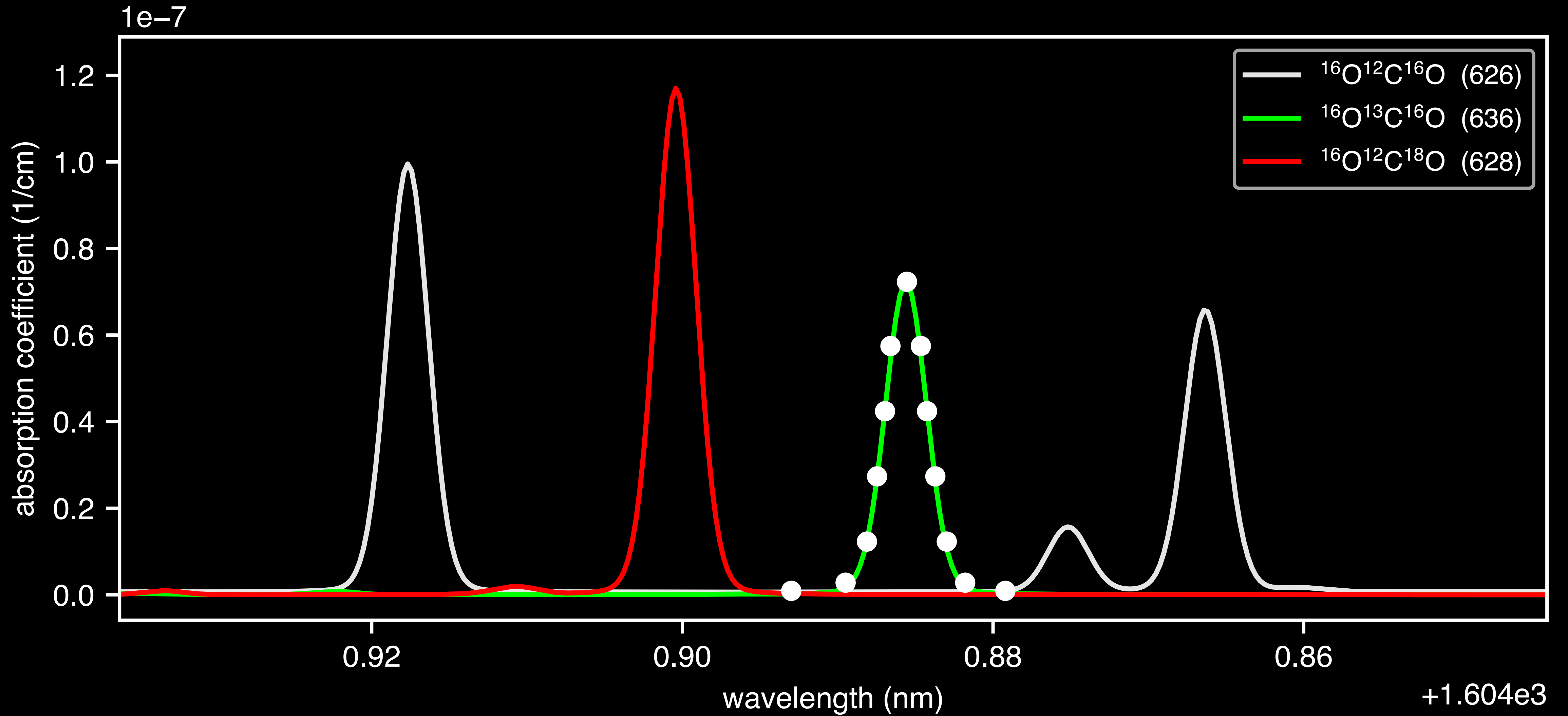




# Factors limiting accuracy?

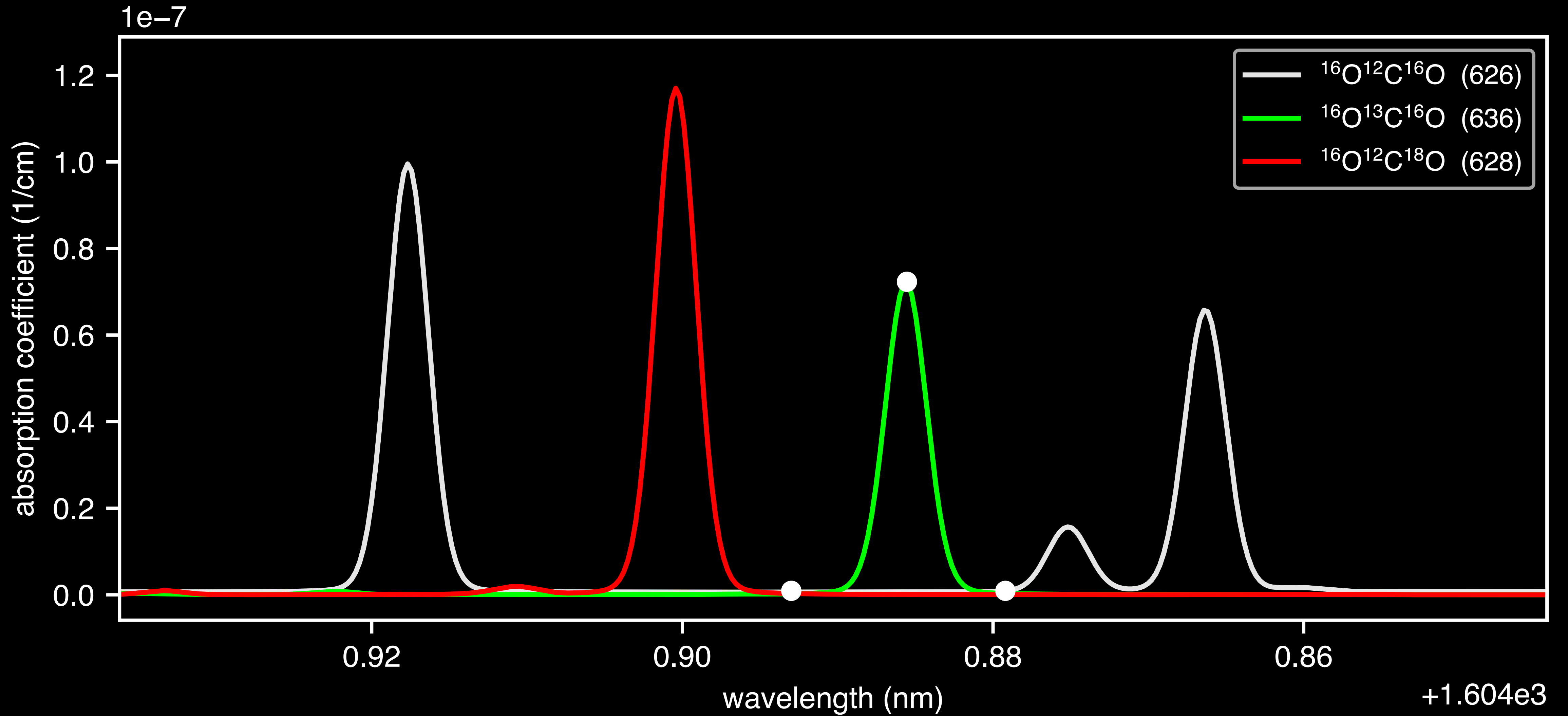


# Factors limiting accuracy?

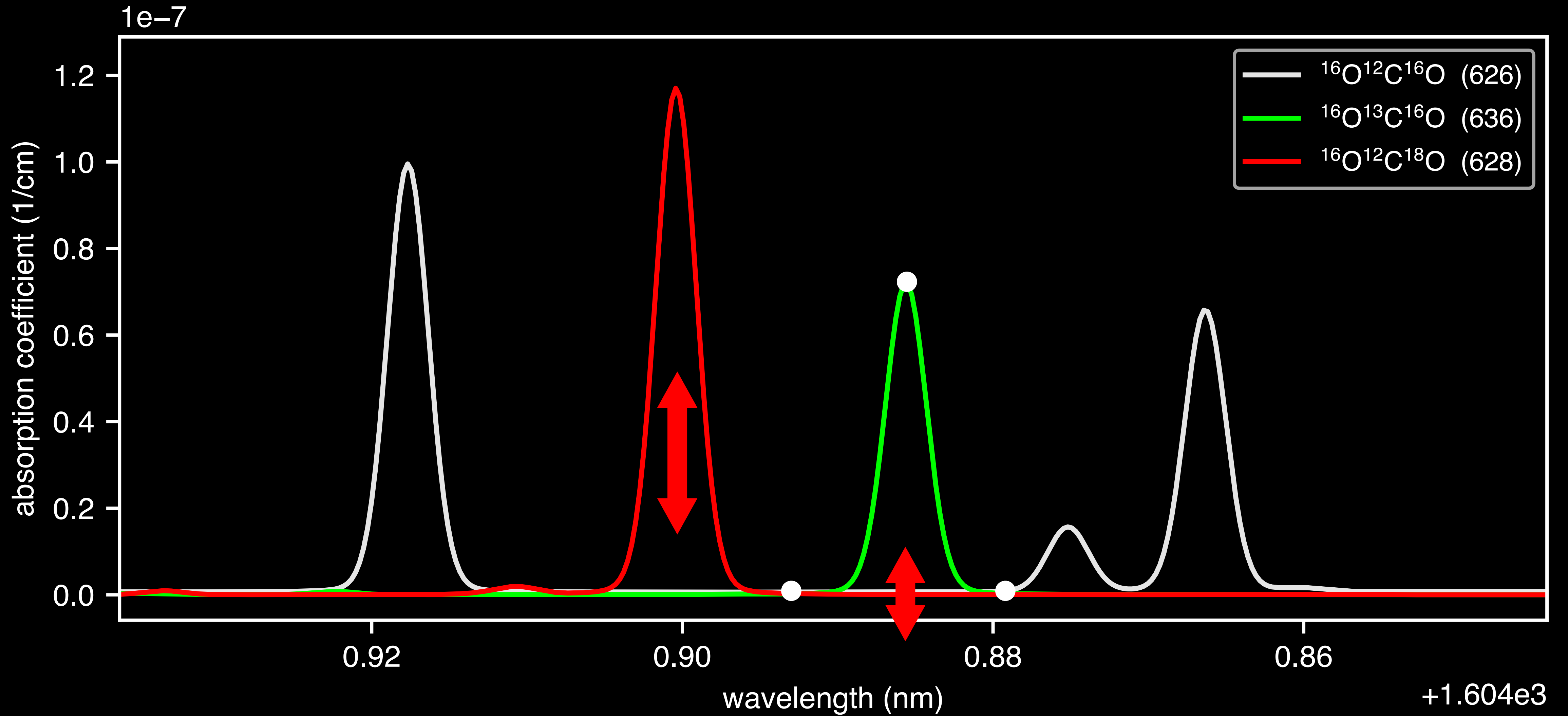




# Factors limiting accuracy?



# Factors limiting accuracy?



# Metrological issues

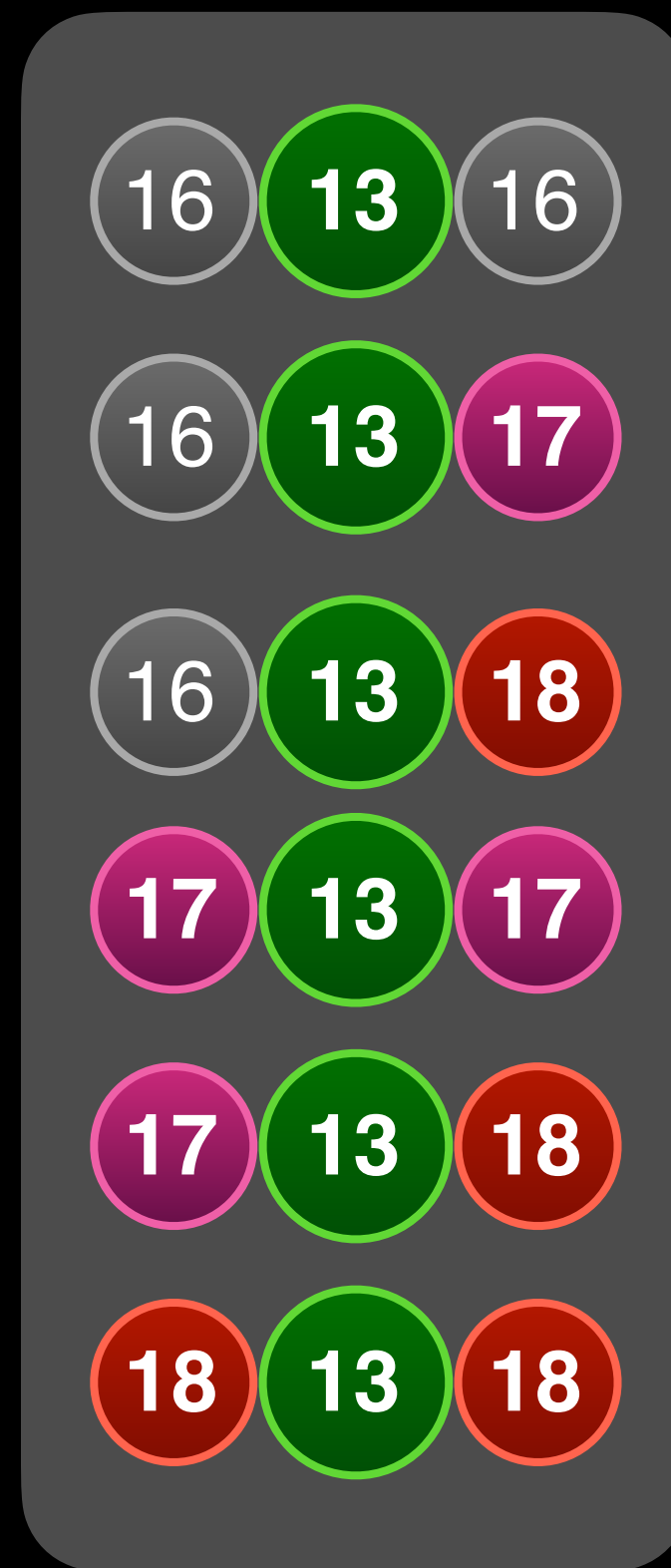
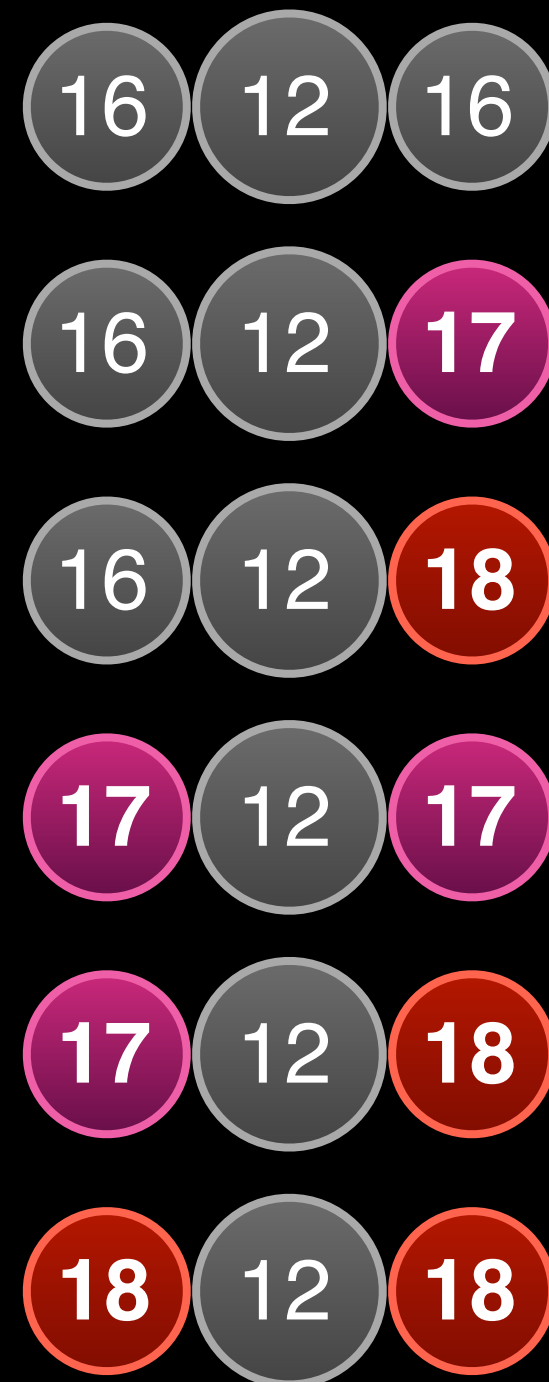
Example: 3 different definitions of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$





# Metrological issues

Example: 3 different definitions of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$

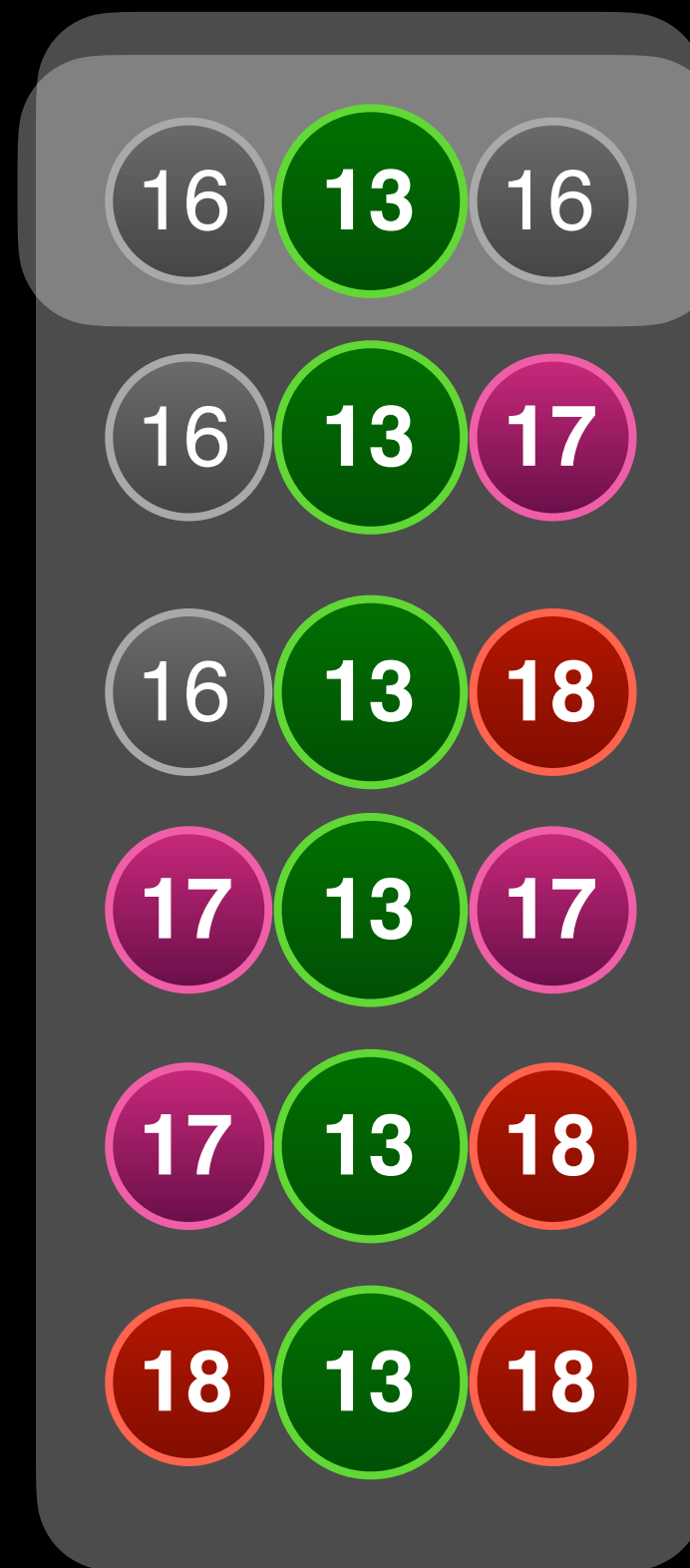
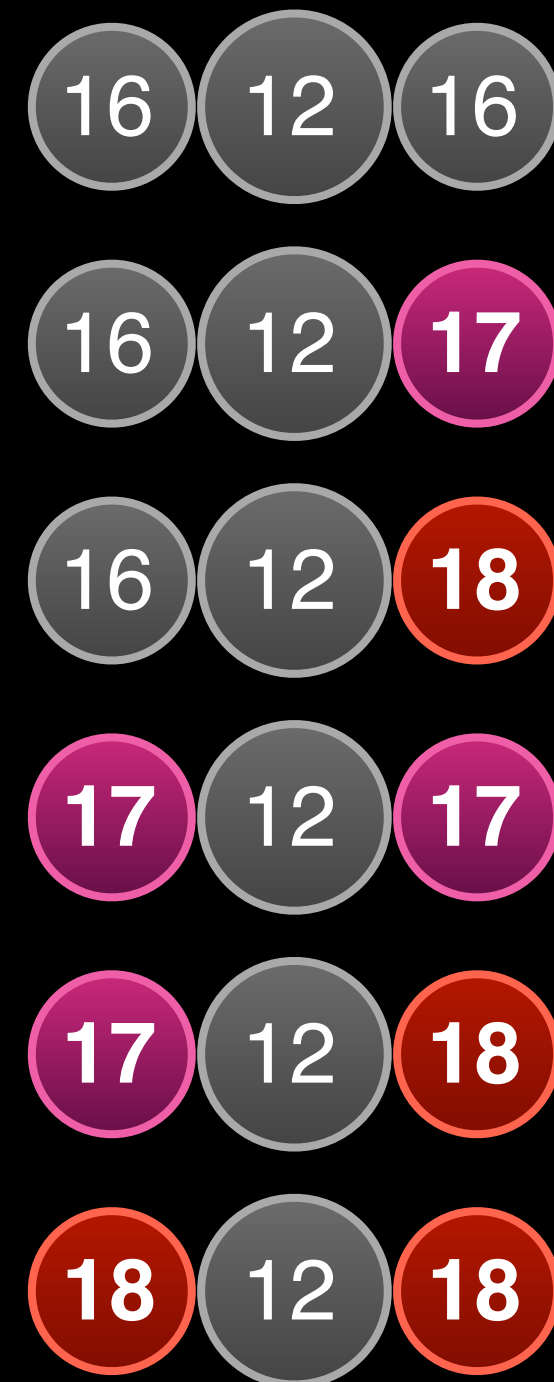


Textbook definition

$$\delta^{13}\text{C} = \frac{(^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C})}{(^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C})_{\text{ref}}} - 1$$

# Metrological issues

Example: 3 different definitions of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$



Spectroscopic measurement

$$\delta^{13}\text{C} = \frac{(^{636}/_{626})}{(^{636}/_{626})_{\text{ref}}} - 1$$

Textbook definition

$$\delta^{13}\text{C} = \frac{(^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C})}{(^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C})_{\text{ref}}} - 1$$



# Metrological issues

## Example: 3 different definitions of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$



Spectroscopic measurement

$$\delta^{13}\text{C} = \frac{(^{636}/_{626})}{(^{636}/_{626})_{\text{ref}}} - 1$$

$$\delta^{13}\text{C} = f(^{45}/_{44}, ^{46}/_{44})$$

assuming  $\Delta^{17}\text{O} = 0$

IRMS measurement

Textbook definition

$$\delta^{13}\text{C} = \frac{(^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C})}{(^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C})_{\text{ref}}} - 1$$

## Conclusions:

Dialogue between spectroscopists and geochemists is useful and rewarding.

Looming metrological issues

Earth-science applications are demanding but have critical implications for us all.

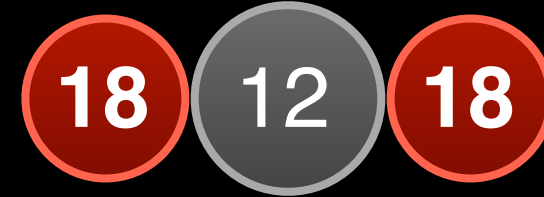
Earth-science labs will soon need a new generation of engineers & researchers.



Three geochemists comparing the performances of their laser instruments (artistic representation)



# Overcome “hard” limits of IRMS? (e.g., $\Delta_{48}$ of CO<sub>2</sub>)



- IRMS of very rare species is limited by Poisson counting statistics  
(count  $N$  ions  $\Rightarrow \sigma \approx N^{1/2}$ )
- Even after 80+ years of development, ion sources remain not very efficient
- By contrast, precision of infra-red spectroscopy bumps against “soft” limits  
(thermal stability, optical fringes, saturation effects...)