



Photo: Maggie Jackson

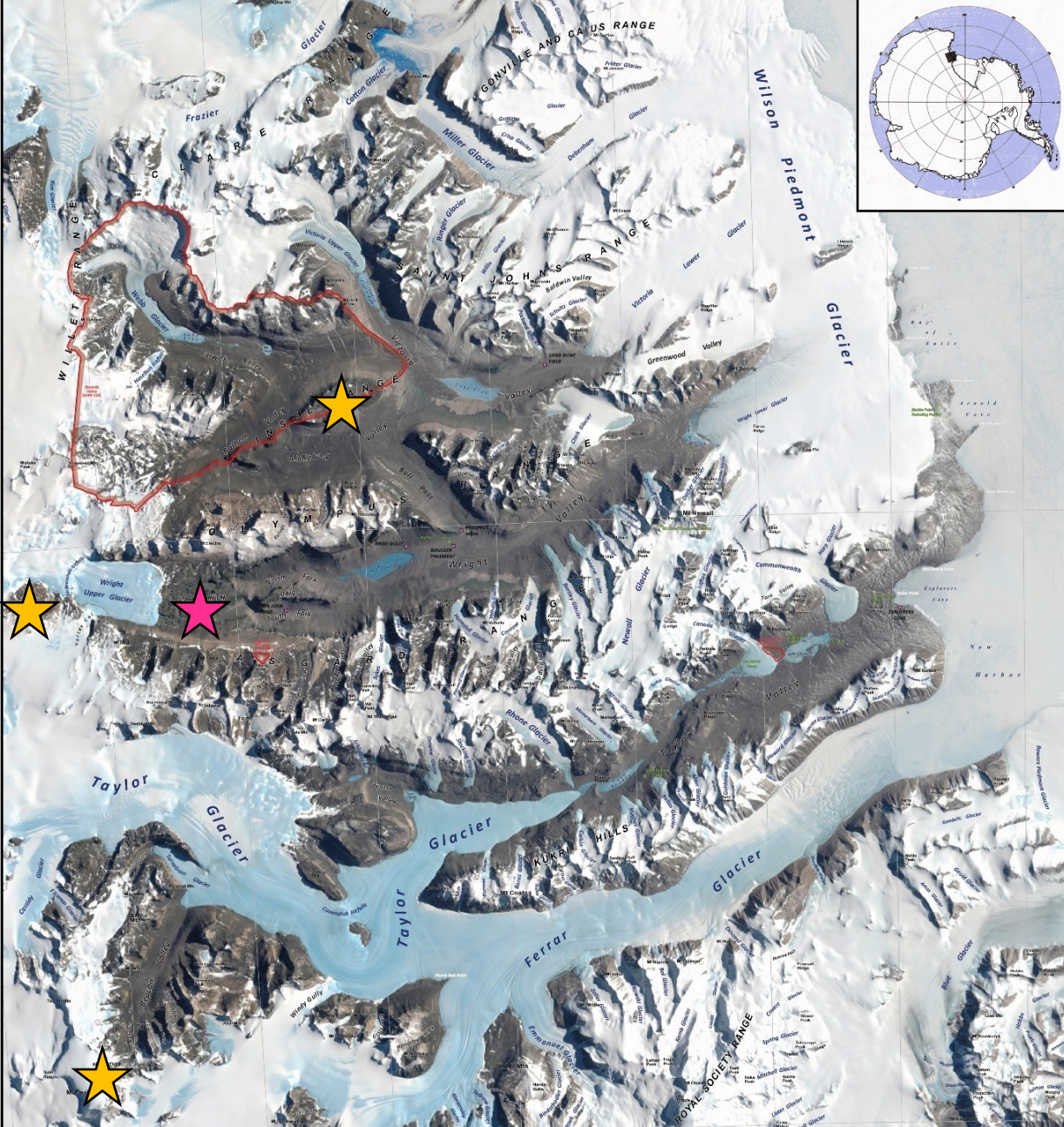
^{10}Be analysis in pyroxene - a method for routine chemical extraction



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Collaborators: Greg Balco (Berkeley Geochronology Center), Jennifer Middleton (LDEO), Alan Hidy (LLNL), PH Blard (CRPG), John Stone (UW)



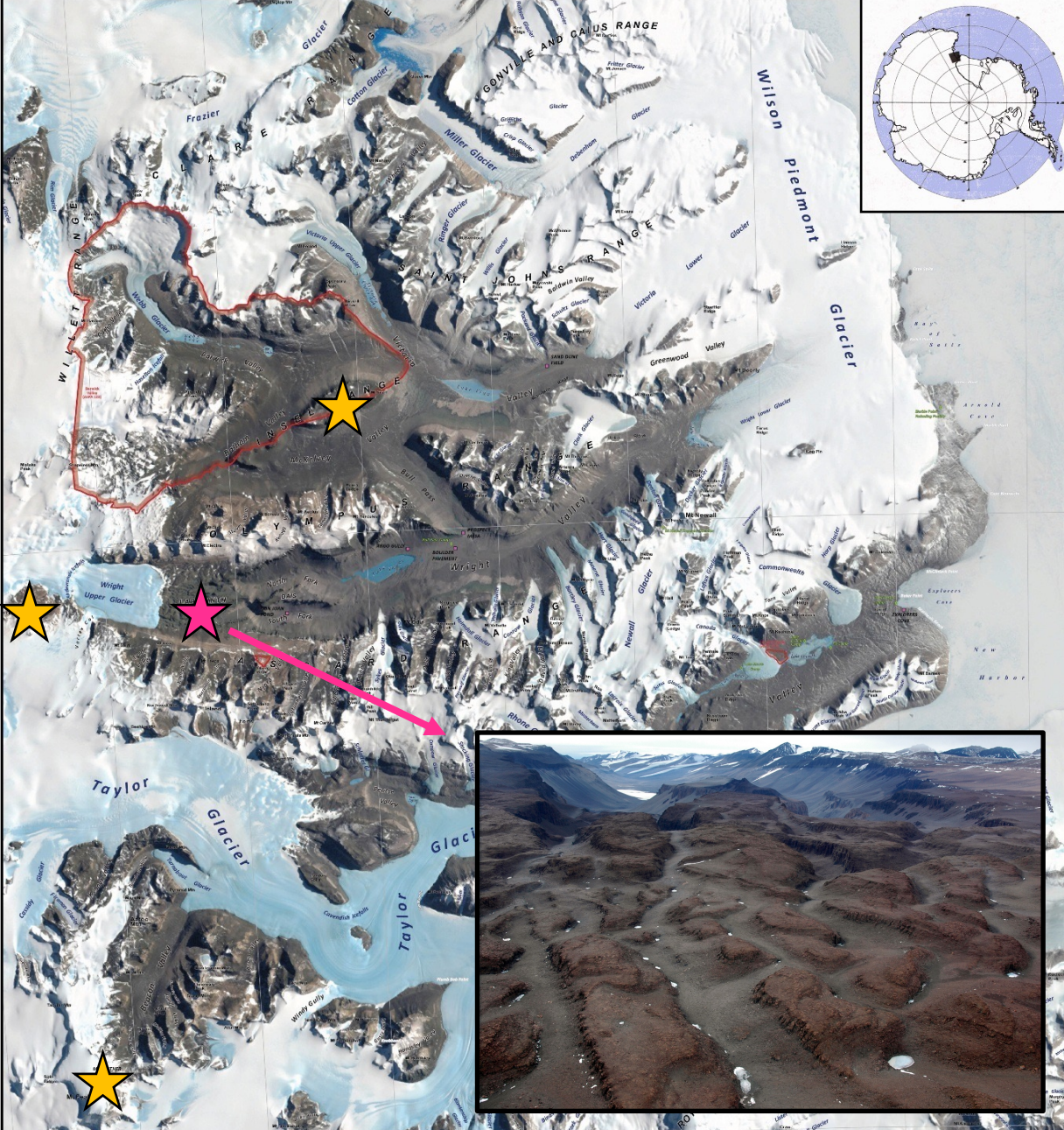
Sample locations

- 5 surface samples – SULA (Ivy-Ochs et al., 1995; Bruno et al., 1997; Schaefer et al., 1999; Schaefer et al., 2006)
 - Apparent ages 2–7 Ma
 - Erosion rate $<15 \text{ cm Myr}^{-1}$
 - *Production rate calibration*
- 1 bedrock core – LABCO (collaboration with John Stone, Greg Balco, PH Blard)
 - Labyrinth
 - Apparent age $\sim 1 \text{ Ma}$
 - Erosion rate $\sim 40 \text{ cm Myr}^{-1}$
 - *Spallation and muon production rate calibration*

Map from [ICYLANDS project](#), modified from [Polar Geospatial Center](#)

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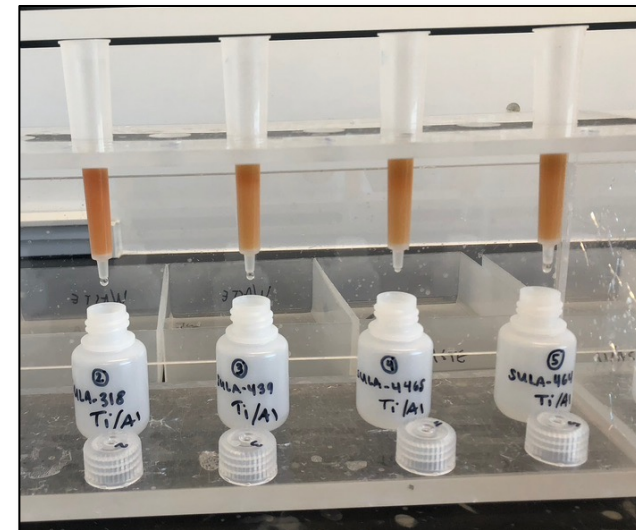
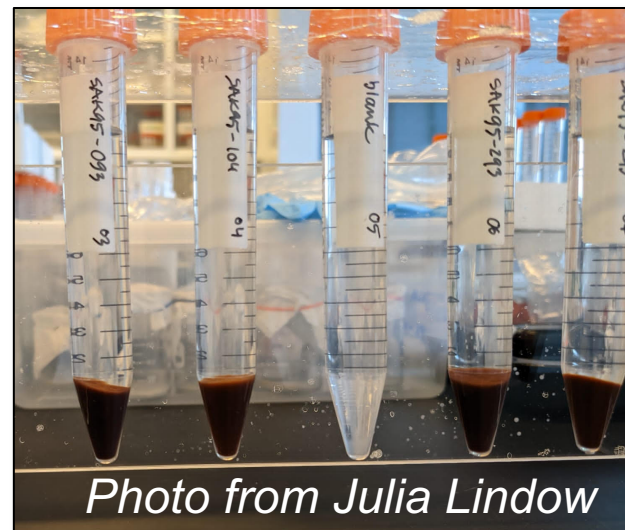
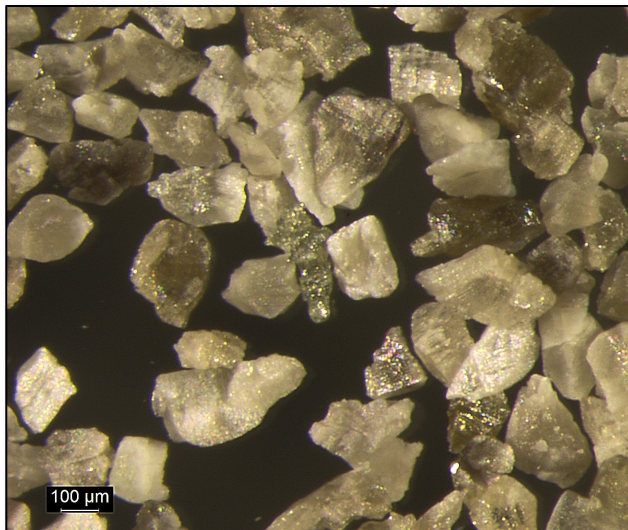
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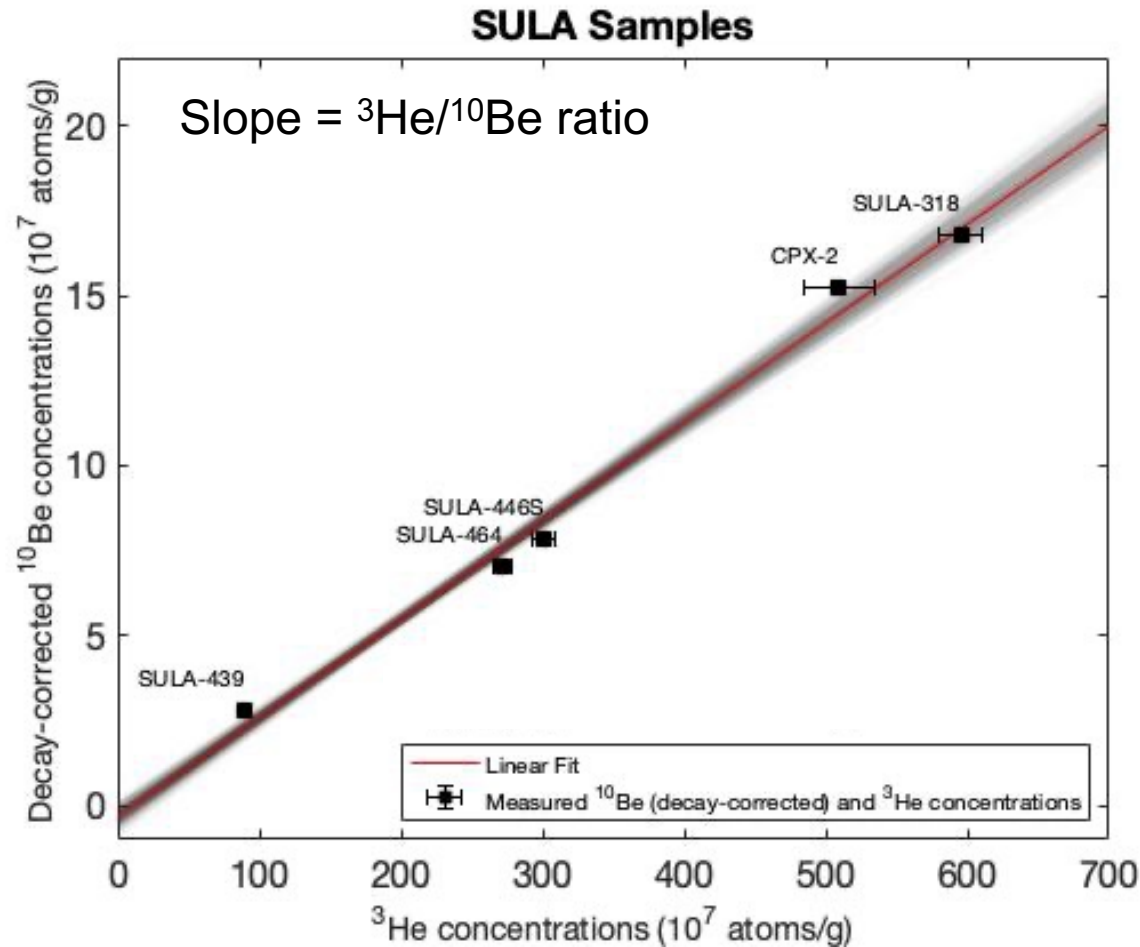
Map from [ICYLANDS project](#), modified from [Polar Geospatial Center](#)

Decontamination and beryllium extraction from pyroxene

- Decontamination of pyroxene grains from meteoric ^{10}Be with **HF leaching** (Bromley et al., 2014)
- Modified from beryllium extraction from quartz - **pH 8 precipitation** before columns to remove Na, Mg and some Ca.
- Used **small sample sizes** (100–200 mg)
- Measured ratios 5×10^{-13} to 4×10^{-15} with uncertainties of <2–9% at CAMS-LLNL



$^3\text{He}/^{10}\text{Be}$ production ratio in pyroxene



$$^3\text{He}/^{10}\text{Be} \text{ ratio} = 36.5 \pm 0.4$$

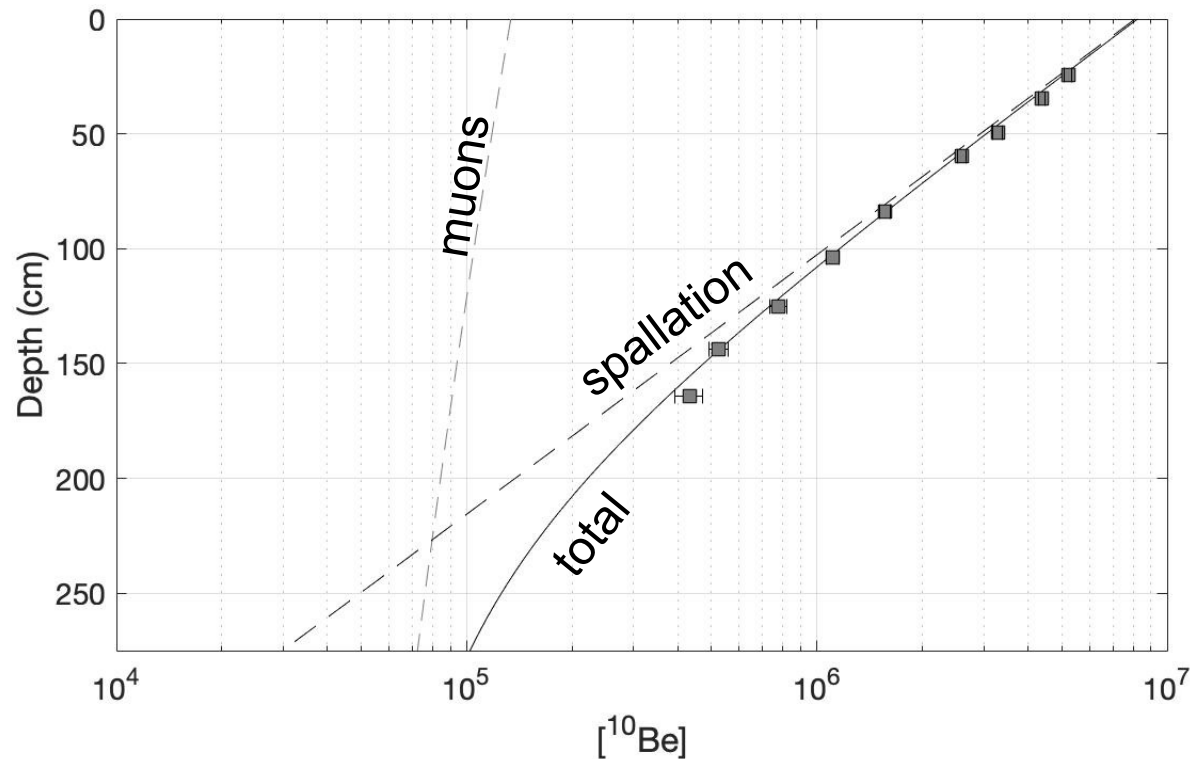
$$^3\text{He} \text{ production rate} = 124.03 \text{ atoms g}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

(Borchers et al., 2016)

$$^{10}\text{Be} \text{ production rate} = 3.37 \pm 0.30 \text{ at g}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

In agreement with previous estimate of $3.6 \pm 0.8 \text{ at g}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ (Eaves et al., 2018; Blard et al., 2008)

Muon production calibration and erosion from depth profiles



- Precise measurements at low ^{10}Be concentrations
- Calibrate ^{10}Be production by negative muon capture (Heisinger et al., 2002; Balco et al., 2019)
- Fitting exercise implies Labyrinth may have formed by wind erosion over 14.5 Ma (Middleton et al., 2012)

Conclusions

- **^{10}Be in pyroxene now routinely doable**, high measurement precision means young samples will be possible.
- Robust $^3\text{He}/^{10}\text{Be}$ estimate in pyroxene in line with previous estimate – **^{10}Be production rate = 3.43 ± 0.30 at $\text{g}^{-1} \text{yr}^{-1}$**
- Opens up ^{10}Be SED and ^{10}Be - ^3He - ^{36}Cl burial and erosion studies in pyroxenes/mafic rocks!
- **Questions/thoughts:** abalter@ldeo.columbia.edu



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Decontamination of pyroxene from meteoric ^{10}Be

