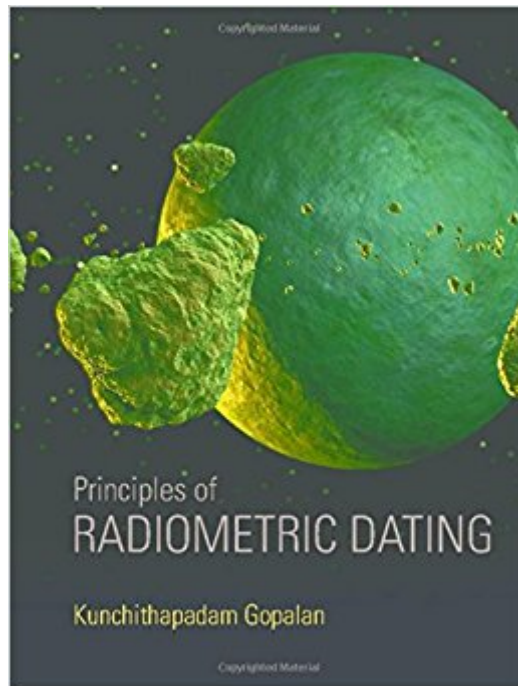




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Principles Of Radiometric Dating



Synopsis

The time-dependent decay of naturally occurring radioactive isotopes or in-growth of their radioactive or stable daughter products form the basis of radiometric dating of several natural processes. Developed in the beginning of the last century mainly to determine the absolute ages of rocks and minerals, radiometric chronology now plays a central role in a broad range of Earth and planetary sciences - from extra-solar-system processes to environmental geoscience. With the prerequisite of only college-level knowledge in physics, chemistry and mathematics, this concise book focuses on the essential principles of radiometric dating in order to enable students and teachers belonging to diverse fields of studies to select, understand and interpret radiometric dating results generated and published by professionals.

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'Well organized, beginning with the basic physics (nuclear structure, radioactivity, nucleosynthesis) then proceeding to how geochronometry actually works, including technical details of mass spectrometry and error analysis, then tackling the ways in which various isotope systems have been used to help understand the history of the earth and the solar system.' Doug Macdougall, Emeritus Professor of Earth Science, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego

The book is, in my opinion, well organized. The subject matter is vast. I like the way in which the author has presented the physical fundamentals in the early chapters, then the applications to the evolution of the earth and other parts of the solar system later.' Marion E. Bickford, Professor Emeritus, Syracuse University, New York

From what I have seen in the chapters, the book is well

presented and I personally and many others in the field would welcome it.' Sir Robert Keith O'Nions, Former President and Rector of Imperial College London'Gopalan wanted to produce a concise book for nonspecialist students and researchers. The book focuses on the basic concepts and principles of isotope dating. I have carefully read all the nine chapters. Undoubtedly, it is a valuable addition to the existing literature. ... Gopalan is a physicist by training, so his writing is pretty accurate and precise.' Bor-Ming Jahn, Former Distinguished Chair Professor for Research, Department of Geosciences, National Taiwan University

Developed in the last century mainly to determine the absolute ages of rocks and minerals, radiometric dating now plays a central role in many modern disciplines. It focuses on the essential principles of radiometric dating to enable the readers to understand and analyse radiometric dating results generated by professionals.

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