



Using ice core measurements from Taylor Glacier, Antarctica to calibrate *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C production rates by muons

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Abstract. Cosmic rays entering the Earth's atmosphere produce showers of secondary particles such as neutrons and muons. The interaction of these neutrons and muons with oxygen-16 (^{16}O) in minerals such as ice and quartz can produce carbon-14 (^{14}C). Analyses of *in situ* produced cosmogenic ^{14}C in quartz are commonly used to investigate the Earth's landscape evolution. In glacial ice, ^{14}C is also incorporated
35 through trapping of ^{14}C -containing atmospheric gases ($^{14}\text{CO}_2$, ^{14}CO , and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$). Understanding the production rates of *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C is important to deconvolve the *in situ* cosmogenic and atmospheric ^{14}C signals in ice, both of which contain valuable paleoenvironmental information. Unfortunately, the *in situ* ^{14}C production rates by muons (which are the dominant production mechanism at depths of >6 m solid ice equivalent) are uncertain. In this study, we use measurements of *in situ* ^{14}C in
40 ancient ice (>50 kilo-annum before present, ka BP) from the Taylor Glacier ablation site, Antarctica in



45 combination with a 2D ice flow model to better constrain the rates of ^{14}C production by muons. We find that the commonly used values for muogenic ^{14}C production rates (Heisinger et al., 2002a, 2002b) in ice are too high by factors of 5.7 (3.6-13.9, 95% confidence interval) and 3.7 (2.0-11.9 95% confidence interval) for negative muon capture and fast muon interactions, respectively. Our constraints on muogenic ^{14}C production rates in ice allow for future measurements of ^{14}C in ice cores to be used for other applications and imply that muogenic ^{14}C production rates in quartz are overestimated as well.

1. Introduction

1.1. Potential applications of ^{14}C measurements in ice and *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C production from ^{16}O in Earth's surface minerals

50 As snow accumulates on ice sheets, it gradually densifies into firn and ice (Herron and Langway, 1980). During the firn to ice transition, the air in the interstitial space between the ice grains becomes trapped into bubbles within the ice matrix (Buizert, 2013). Included in the paleoatmospheric air trapped in the bubbles are ^{14}C -containing atmospheric gases ($^{14}\text{CO}_2$, ^{14}CO , and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$) (Fireman and Norris, 1982). ^{14}C in ice is also produced through interactions of secondary cosmic rays with ^{16}O directly in the lattice of the ice grains (i.e., "*in situ*") (Lal et al., 1990). Following the cosmogenic nuclear reactions, the "hot" ^{14}C atom interacts with atoms in the surrounding ice lattice to produce $^{14}\text{CO}_2$, ^{14}CO , and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ (Lal et al., 1990; Petrenko et al., 2013).

60 Both the trapped atmospheric and *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C signals in ice have unique applications. For example, the paleoatmospheric component of $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ in ice cores has been used to constrain past CH_4 emissions from old carbon reservoirs such as methane hydrates, permafrost, and geologic seeps (Dyonisius et al., 2020; Hmiel et al., 2020; Petrenko et al., 2009, 2017). Paleoatmospheric $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ can be potentially used for absolute dating of ice core gases (Andree et al., 1984; Van De Wal et al., 1994) and to improve the radiocarbon calibration curve (Reimer et al., 2020; Hogg et al., 2020) in periods where tree-ring data are not available. Measurements of ^{14}CO in the modern atmosphere have been used to constrain the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere (Brenninkmeijer et al., 1992; Petrenko et al., 2021) and thus, paleoatmospheric ^{14}CO in ice cores can be used for a similar application. The *in situ* cosmogenic component of ^{14}CO at ice core sites can be potentially be used to reconstruct the past cosmic ray flux (BenZvi et al., 2019). Finally, measurements of the *in situ* cosmogenic component of $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO can be used to constrain the accumulation/ablation rate of the ice core site (e.g., Lal et al., 1990; Lal and Jull, 1990). Unfortunately, the paleoatmospheric and *in situ* cosmogenic components of ^{14}C in ice exist in a combined form and cannot be separated analytically (Petrenko et al., 2016). To separate these signals, it is important to have accurate estimates of the cosmogenic ^{14}C production rates and the partitioning among the *in situ* produced ^{14}C species ($^{14}\text{CO}_2$, ^{14}CO , and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$) in ice.



75 Measurements of *in situ* cosmogenic nuclides (^3He , ^{10}Be , ^{14}C , ^{21}Ne , ^{26}Al , and ^{36}Cl) in near-surface
rocks are commonly used as tools to constrain various Earth surface processes such as the timing of glacial
retreat and erosion rates (Gosse and Phillips, 2001; Balco, 2020). Due to its short half-life of 5700 ± 30 yr
(Kutschera, 2019), ^{14}C in quartz is uniquely suited to characterize surface processes on millennial
timescales (e.g., Spector et al., 2019; Pendleton et al., 2019). *In situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C measurements are also
often paired with measurements of longer-lived nuclides such as ^{10}Be and ^{26}Al (e.g., Hippe, 2017; Skov et
80 al., 2019) to study complex surface processes such as subglacial erosion and millennial-scale glacier
retreats/re-advances.

In situ cosmogenic ^{14}C in Earth's surface minerals is produced from ^{16}O by 3 nuclear reactions: (1)
neutron-induced spallation (Lal and Peters, 1967), (2) negative muon capture (Heisinger et al., 2002b), and
(3) interactions with fast muons (Heisinger et al., 2002a). The depth-dependence of the ^{14}C production rate
85 for each mechanism in ice is shown in Fig. 1. Neutron-induced spallation dominates the ^{14}C production at
the surface but is quickly attenuated with depth, while the production rates from the two muon mechanisms
are lower near the surface but dominate at larger depths. Characterizing the *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C
production rates from muons is especially important for applications of cosmogenic surface exposure
dating where the samples might be exposed to subsurface cosmic-ray flux for an extended period. One
90 example of this would be bedrock that is covered by a relatively thin (e.g., tens of meters) glacier.

Understanding the muogenic ^{14}C component is also important for ^{14}C studies in ice. Prior studies have
shown that at snow accumulation sites, most of the *in situ* ^{14}C produced in the firn (including the majority
of neutron-produced ^{14}C) is lost to the atmosphere via gas movement in the firn open porosity (Petrenko
et al., 2013; van der Kemp et al., 2000; Wilson and Donahue, 1992). *In situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C mainly starts to
95 accumulate in deeper ice where gas exchange with the atmosphere no longer happens and at these depths
the ^{14}C production is entirely from the muon mechanisms. Thus, the *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C signal in
traditional deep ice cores is dominated by production from muons and constraining the muogenic ^{14}C
production rates is critical to disentangle the *in situ* cosmogenic and atmospheric ^{14}C signals in ice cores.
Unfortunately, the *in situ* ^{14}C production rates by muons in both ice and quartz are still highly uncertain
100 (Hippe, 2017).

The production rates of cosmogenic nuclides are usually determined from calibration sites where
independent controls on exposure history are available such as ^{14}C dating from organic materials (e.g.,
Lifton et al., 2015) or argon ($^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$) dating from lava flows (e.g., Balbas and Farley, 2020; Fenton et al.,
2019). However, the commonly used estimates of muogenic ^{14}C production rates (for both negative muon
105 capture and fast muon reactions) were derived through laboratory irradiation of artificial target compounds
(Heisinger et al., 2002a, 2002b). To our knowledge, there is only one prior study (Lupker et al., 2015) that
provided estimates of total muogenic *in situ* ^{14}C production rates based on measurements in a natural
setting. Using ^{14}C measurements from a 15.5m deep quartzite core from Leymon High, Spain, Lupker et al.



(2015) estimated a sea level high latitude (SLHL) surface production rate of $3.34 (+0.43/-1.07)$ ^{14}C atoms g^{-1} quartz yr^{-1} for negative muon capture and $0 (+0.42/-0.00)$ ^{14}C atoms g^{-1} quartz yr^{-1} for fast muon interactions (1σ uncertainties). The large uncertainties on the ^{14}C production rates (especially the production rate from fast muons) estimated by Lupker et al. (2015) were due to relatively large measurement uncertainty for their deepest samples and small contribution to the ^{14}C signal from fast muons. Petrenko et al. (2016) also used ^{14}C measurements (^{14}CO , $^{14}\text{CO}_2$, and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$) in >50 ka BP ice for the 2 – 20 m depth range from Taylor Glacier, Antarctica to constrain the ^{14}C production rates in ice. The old age of the ice ensured that all in-situ cosmogenic and paleoatmospheric ^{14}C inherited from the ice accumulation site had decayed away. Unfortunately, Petrenko et al. (2016) were unable to accurately constrain the total ^{14}C production rates because of the high uncertainty resulting from the melt-extraction technique used to obtain their $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements (see Section 1.3).

1.2. Overview of ^{14}C production from muons

In situ cosmogenic ^{14}C production in ice is analogous to production in quartz because both minerals share the same target atom (^{16}O). Following Heisinger et al. (2002b), the production rate of ^{14}C (atoms g^{-1} yr^{-1}) by negative muon capture (P_{neg}) as a function of lithospheric depth (h , typically in g cm^{-2}) is given by

$$P_{\text{neg}}(h) = R_{\mu^-}(h) \cdot f_{\text{tot}} \quad \text{Eq.1}$$

$$f_{\text{tot}} = f_{\text{C}} \cdot f_{\text{D}} \cdot f^* \quad \text{Eq.2}$$

where $R_{\mu^-}(z)$ is the stopping rate of negative muons (muons g^{-1} yr^{-1}) at lithospheric depth h and f_{tot} is the overall probability of ^{14}C production in ice from a stopped negative muon (unitless). The stopping rate of negative muons at the given depth $R_{\mu^-}(h)$ has been empirically determined from measurements at deep underground laboratories (Heisinger et al., 2002b). The lithospheric depth (h) is a product of actual depth (z) and density (ρ) of the target mineral ($\rho_{\text{ice}} = 0.92 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$).

The total probability (f_{tot}) of ^{14}C production from negative muon capture is expressed by the product of the chemical compound factor (f_{C}) representing the probability that the stopped muon is captured by one of the target atoms (^{16}O in case of ^{14}C production), the probability that the negative muon does not decay in the K-shell before nuclear capture (f_{D}), and the effective probability for production of cosmogenic nuclide after μ^- capture by the target atom (f^*) (Eq.2; Heisinger et al., 2002b; Lupker et al., 2015). All probability (f) terms in Eq.2 are unitless. From experiments involving laboratory irradiation of artificial targets, the overall probability (f_{tot}) for ^{14}C production in ice from negative muon was estimated to be 0.025 ± 0.002 (Heisinger et al., 2002b).

An expression for the production rate of nuclides by fast muon interactions (P_{fast}) as a function of lithospheric depth (h) is given by Heisinger et al. (2002a):

$$P_{\text{fast}}(h) = \sigma_0 \cdot \beta(h) \phi(h) \cdot \bar{E}(h)^\alpha \cdot N \quad \text{Eq.3}$$

$$\beta(h) = 0.846 - 0.015 \ln(h+1) + 0.003139 (\ln(h+1))^2 \quad \text{Eq.4}$$



140 where $\phi(h)$ is the total muon flux at depth z (muons $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{yr}^{-1} \text{sr}^{-1}$), σ_0 is the reference nuclear reaction cross section at muon energy of 1 GeV (millibarn, mb), $\beta(h)$ is the unitless parameterized depth dependence factor (Eq. 4), $\bar{E}(h)$ is the mean muon energy at depth h (GeV), α is a power factor that describes the energy dependence of the cross section (unitless), and N is the number of target nuclei per gram target mineral. The overall production rate of ^{14}C from fast muons provided by Heisinger et al. (2002a) has a high uncertainty because of the uncertainty of the reference nuclear reaction cross section σ_0 ($\sigma_0 = 0.0088 \pm$
145 0.0049 mb). Following Lupker et al. (2015), in this study we used f_{tot} and σ_0 as tuning parameters for the two muogenic production mechanisms in a cosmogenic nuclide production model (Section 3.2) to fit our ^{14}C measurements.

1.3. Gas extraction methods for ice core ^{14}C analysis

150 Common methods to liberate gas trapped in ice core bubbles include melting (wet extraction; e.g., Sowers et al., 1992; Mitchell et al., 2011) and mechanical destruction of the ice lattice (dry extraction; e.g., Bereiter et al., 2013; Ahn et al., 2009; Zumbunn et al., 1982). Dry extraction is generally preferable for CO_2 analysis because the presence of liquid water in a wet extraction introduces extraneous CO_2 from the carbonate-acid reaction between the meltwater and impurities in the ice (e.g., Delmas et al., 1980; Raynaud et al., 1982). Multiple studies of $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ in ice have used dry extraction methods (e.g., Van De Wal et al.,
155 1994; Smith et al., 2000; Van der Kemp et al., 2000; Van De Wal et al., 2007). However, dry extraction systems (e.g., Lüthi et al., 2008) can potentially introduce biases in CO_2 mole fraction $[\text{CO}_2]$ due to incomplete gas extraction (Bereiter et al., 2015). Considering that the *in situ* cosmogenic production of ^{14}C occurs directly in the ice lattice (Lal et al., 1990), it has been argued that dry extraction may also not liberate all of the ^{14}C from the ice (e.g., van Roijen et al., 1994).

160 Other studies of ^{14}C in ice (e.g., Lal et al., 1990; Jull et al., 1994; Lal et al., 1997, 2001) have used wet extraction methods. These wet-extraction studies involved an addition of acid to drive off all dissolved CO_2 from the meltwater (Lal et al., 1990; Jull et al., 1994; Lal et al., 1997, 2001). The acidification process may have resulted in an additional CO_2 release from impurities in the ice (e.g., carbonate dust). In dust-rich Greenland ice, the presence of liquid water in a wet extraction produced “in-extractu” excess CH_4 (Lee et al., 2020). It is thus possible that a wet extraction approach for ^{14}C analysis may also result in additional C
165 release from organics in the ice, which are not ^{14}C -free.

A third method to liberate gases trapped in ice cores is sublimation under vacuum (e.g., Wilson and Donahue, 1989; Wilson and Long, 1997; Wilson and Donahue, 1990; Siegenthaler et al., 2005; Schmitt et al., 2011). Sublimation can occur when the pressure and temperature on the surface of the ice are below the
170 triple point of the water phase change diagram. In addition to being free of problems associated with wet extraction methods, sublimation guarantees 100% gas extraction efficiency (Schmitt et al., 2011; Bereiter et



al., 2013, 2015) which includes any ^{14}C trapped in the ice lattice. Therefore, sublimation is likely an optimal method for $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements in ice.

This study presents new ^{14}C measurements in 3 gas species (^{14}CO , $^{14}\text{CO}_2$, and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$) in ancient (>50 ka BP) ice from the ablation zone of Taylor Glacier, Antarctica to constrain the total ^{14}C production rates in ice by muons. Ice at this location does not contain a significant amount of ^{14}C inherited from the accumulation site (Petrenko et al., 2016), and the ^{14}C content is due almost entirely to production by muons during transport within the glacier. We improved on the earlier work by Petrenko et al. (2016) by (1) using a newly developed ice sublimation extraction device for $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements (see Section 2.3.2), (2) collecting deeper samples to ~72 m to better characterize the ^{14}C production rate from the fast muon mechanism, and (3) using a more realistic 2D ice-flow model from Buizert et al. (2012) to account for the flow trajectory and exposure history of the samples (see Section 3.1).

2. Field Sampling and Analytical Methods

2.1. Site Description

The blue ice area of Taylor Glacier (Fig. 2) provides access to near-unlimited amounts of well-dated ancient ice (Baggenstos et al., 2017; Bauska et al., 2016; Menking et al., 2019; Schilt et al., 2014; Shackleton et al., 2020). This allows Taylor Glacier ice to be measured for ultra-trace gas species that require a very large amount of ice (Dyonisius et al., 2020; Petrenko et al., 2016, 2017; Buizert et al., 2014). In this study, we used the same site as Petrenko et al. (2016) ($77^\circ 43.699'\text{S}$, $161^\circ 43.179'$), where ice >50 ka in age at the surface has been previously identified.

2.2. Field sampling

Approximately 1000 kg of ice is needed to obtain both the necessary CH_4 -derived and CO -derived C mass for ^{14}C analyses. Because of this large sample requirement, and to avoid post-coring *in situ* ^{14}C production at the surface, the melt extraction for $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ and ^{14}CO samples was performed on-site using the large volume melter apparatus and technique described in Petrenko et al. (2016). The liberated air was transferred to 34.9 L electropolished stainless steel canisters and shipped to our laboratories for processing and analyses. Similar to other studies using this large volume ice melter (e.g., Dyonisius et al., 2020; Petrenko et al., 2016, 2017), four procedural blanks (two with 'modern' $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ standard gas and two with ' ^{14}C -dead' $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ standard gas) were collected in the field. These field procedural blanks allow us to characterize the addition of extraneous ^{14}C to the samples. The standard gases used in the field procedural blanks were passed through a Sofnocat 423 reagent which removes CO (and thus ^{14}CO) but leaves CH_4 (and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$) intact.



The overall sampling scheme for this study is shown in Fig. S1. We used the 9.5-inch diameter Blue Ice Drill (BID) (Kuhl et al., 2014) to collect 7 large-volume samples during the 2015/2016 austral summer field season for ^{14}CO and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ analyses. The “surface” sample was collected from 21 x 1.5m deep shallow cores, each with an average mid-depth of $\sim 0.75\text{m}$. Six additional deep samples with mid-depths of 19.5m, 30m, 40.5m, 51m, 61.5m, and 72m were also collected by combining ice from three $\sim 78\text{m}$ deep boreholes. Each of the deep large-volume samples spanned approximately 10.5m depth. Continuous “sticks” of ice subsamples (3x3 cm, spanning the whole length of the core) were taken from one of the three ice core boreholes (“TGDeep3”) for age control (see Supplementary Material Section 3). The continuous sample sticks were measured for CH_4 mole fraction $[\text{CH}_4]$ using the continuous flow analysis (CFA) system described in Rhodes et al. (2013) at Oregon State University (OSU).

In addition to the large volume samples, we collected 26 smaller subsamples ($\sim 1.5\text{-}2\text{ kg}$) from 13 depth levels and 2 boreholes for $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements. Each depth level contained a pair of replicates; however, only 9 out of the 13 replicate pairs were “true” replicates (i.e., collected from the same borehole and cut from the same depth interval). Collecting same depth-adjacent samples below 50 m depth from a single borehole was challenging because of reduced core quality (i.e., more fractures in the ice), and thus the “replicates” had to be collected from a different borehole. Immediately after removal from the borehole, ice samples become exposed to a more intense cosmic ray bombardment (post-coring *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C production). Five artificial “bubble-free-ice” (BFI) samples were manufactured in the field following methods from Mitchell et al. (2011) but upscaled to produce 1.5-2 kg samples. The field-produced BFI samples were shipped together with the collected glacial ice samples to characterize the effects of the post-coring *in situ* cosmogenic $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ production in the samples.

2.3. Laboratory analytical methods

2.3.1. Large volume samples for ^{14}CO and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ measurements

The detailed approach for sample processing, measurements and associated procedural corrections for the large volume samples have been previously described in detail (Petrenko et al., 2016). In this section, we only provide a brief overview and highlight the differences between our methods and those of Dyonisius et al. (2020). First, the $\delta^{13}\text{CH}_4$ measurements were conducted at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR) following methods described by Miller et al. (2002) (Table S1). The $\delta^{13}\text{CH}_4$ measurements were not corrected for gravitational (Sowers et al., 1992) and diffusive isotopic fractionation (Buizert et al., 2013) because these corrections are only necessary to reconstruct the paleoatmospheric $\delta^{13}\text{CH}_4$ signal. In this study, the $\delta^{13}\text{CH}_4$ values are only used to normalize and calculate the absolute $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ abundance (in molecules/g ice).



235 The large volume samples and field procedural blanks were measured for [CH₄] using a gas chromatograph – multidetector (GC-MD) system (Prinn et al., 2008) (Table S2). Pressure in the sample canisters was measured using a Paroscientific Inc. Digiquartz Series 740 absolute pressure transducer at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) for total air content (TAC) determination (Table S3). Two of the field procedural blanks were also measured for Kr/N₂, Xe/N₂, and Xe/Kr ratio (Table S4) at Scripps
240 Institution of Oceanography (SIO) following procedures described in Bereiter et al. (2018). The noble gas ratios were used to constrain the gas solubility during the melt extraction. The large volume samples were measured for CO mole fraction [CO] using a Picarro G2401 analyzer (Table S5) and again for pressure at the University of Rochester (UR, Table S4).

The CH₄ in the large volume samples and blanks was combusted to CO₂, cryogenically separated, and
245 flame-sealed in glass ampules using the air processing line at the University of Rochester (Dyonisius et al., 2020). We also processed 3 x 100 µg of CH₄-derived C samples each from the “modern” ¹⁴CH₄ standard gas and “¹⁴C-dead” standard gas used for the field procedural blanks. Because of the larger sample size, the effect of extraneous C introduced by graphitization on these 100 µg samples is assumed to be negligible. The sample air that remained after CH₄ processing (~10 L STP) was diluted with a gas containing 10.02 ±
250 0.26 µmol/mol (95% confidence interval, CI) of ¹⁴C-depleted CO (¹⁴CO = 0.19 ± 0.08 pMC, 95% CI) to increase the CO-derived C mass for the Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) measurements. The dilutant gas was measured for δ¹³CO using methods described in Vimont (2017) (δ¹³CO = -23.36 ± 0.2‰, 95% CI).

The CO- and CH₄-derived CO₂ was graphitized using the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO) “micro” furnaces following Yang and Smith (2017). We used the ¹⁴C activity
255 measured on the 100 µg samples as the “true” ¹⁴C activity of the standard gases (Table S6). Using a mass balance approach described in Petrenko et al. (2017), the total extraneous C mass for the ¹⁴CH₄ samples was determined to be 0.63 ± 0.28 µgC, and the corresponding ¹⁴C activity for the extraneous C was 16.7 ± 10.2 pMC (95% CI).

In prior studies (e.g., Dyonisius et al., 2020; Petrenko et al., 2017), ¹⁴CO measurements from the field
260 procedural blanks were used to characterize the effects of extraneous ¹⁴C addition from sample extraction, handling, storage, transport, and processing (including the graphitization step). For this study, the field procedural blanks were still used to characterize the effects from *in situ* production of ¹⁴CO in the sample air canisters by cosmic rays during storage and transport. However, to better characterize the effects from the addition of extraneous C during the graphitization process, we used a linear empirical correction from
265 10 commensurately-sized ¹⁴C standards and blanks at ANSTO (see Supplementary Materials, Fig. S2A, Table S7) following Petrenko et al. (2021). This approach has the benefit of bracketing the effects of extraneous C from graphitization at ANSTO with low and high ¹⁴C standards, similar to the approach for the ¹⁴CH₄ samples. The ¹⁴CO blank for this sample set is 22.45 ± 3.24 molecules ¹⁴CO/cc STP (95% CI), which is higher than the ¹⁴CO blanks reported in Dyonisius et al. (2020). This is mainly because there was



270 an extra year between the retrieval and processing of the samples (thus there was more *in situ* ^{14}C
production in sample canisters during storage). $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ and ^{14}CO measurements in our samples after all
associated corrections, as well as earlier Taylor Glacier results from Petrenko et al. (2016) are shown in
Table 1 and Fig. 3.

2.3.2. Sublimation and processing of samples for $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements

275 CO_2 was liberated from ice samples using a new ice sublimation device at the University of Rochester
(Hmiel, 2020), following the design of Schmitt et al. (2011). To briefly summarize the procedure, 1.5-2 kg
ice samples were loaded into a vacuum glass vessel, the vessel was then evacuated, and the ice was
sublimated at vacuum with six 1500W infrared emitters (Emitted Energy, USA) for 8-10 hours. We did not
sublimate 100% of the samples because as the ice sublimates away, impurities such as dust and organics
280 start to accumulate on the surface. The aggregation of impurities on the ice sublimation front might
enhance unwanted chemical reactions that produce extraneous carbon (Schmitt et al., 2011). Furthermore,
towards the end of the extraction, the sublimation became less efficient as less surface area was available to
absorb radiation. Approximately 1 kg of ice was sublimated in 8-10 hours. However, the incomplete
sublimation does not compromise the 100% extraction efficiency as all the gases trapped in the ice that is
285 sublimated away is still released (Schmitt et al., 2011).

The liberated CO_2 was cryogenically trapped with liquid nitrogen and the air was also cryogenically
trapped with 5\AA molecular sieve (Sigma Aldrich USA) under liquid nitrogen. After the sublimation was
completed, the trapped CO_2 and air were expanded into separate volume-calibrated manometers where
pressure measurements were taken to calculate the $[\text{CO}_2]$. Finally, the isolated CO_2 was cryogenically
290 transferred to and flame-sealed into a Pyrex glass ampule. The CO_2 was graphitized at ANSTO using
“micro” furnaces (Yang and Smith, 2017) and the graphitized samples were measured for ^{14}C activity at the
ANTARES AMS facility (Smith et al., 2010). One $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ sample (replicate for 30m depth sample) was
unfortunately lost during sublimation because the ice fractured under vacuum during the evacuation step.

A ~50-75 g ice subsample was taken from every $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ sample and shipped to OSU. The aliquots
295 were measured for $[\text{CO}_2]$ following Ahn et al. (2009), and $[\text{CH}_4]$ and TAC following Mitchell et al. (2013)
(Table S8). Five field-produced bubble-free ice (BFI) samples and 9-laboratory produced BFI samples
were also sublimated along with the glacial ice samples. During the sublimation of the BFI samples, a
standard gas with known $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ activity and $[\text{CO}_2]$ was introduced into the bottom of the glass vessel at
0.15 scc/min flow rate for 8-10 hours. The set flow rate mimicked the rate of air liberation from glacial ice
300 samples and the processing time also mimicked the amount of time needed to sublimate glacial ice samples.
We used a standard gas with “dead” $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ activity for 4 laboratory-produced BFI samples and a standard
gas with “modern” $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ activity for the other 5 laboratory-produced BFI samples. The CO_2 was
cryogenically trapped downstream, processed, and measured for ^{14}C activity following the same methods as



the ice samples. In combination with the OSU [CO₂] and TAC measurements, the BFI samples were used
305 to constrain the amount of extraneous carbon and ¹⁴C introduced by sample transport, storage, and
processing (see Supplementary Materials Section 1, Table S9). Finally, 11 commensurately-sized ¹⁴C
standards and blanks (14-16 μgC) with known ¹⁴C activities (in 0-135 pMC range) were prepared,
graphitized and measured at ANSTO concurrently with all the samples (Table S7) to characterize the
effects from the addition of extraneous C during the graphitization process.

310 The detailed corrections for the ¹⁴CO₂ samples are discussed in the Supplementary Materials. We
correct for the effects of extraneous C from graphitization and other ANSTO processing using a linear
empirical correction from the commensurately-sized ¹⁴C standards (Section 1.1 of the Supplementary
Materials, Fig. S2B). The effects of extraneous carbon from ice sublimation/CO₂ extraction are calculated
from the difference in measured ¹⁴C activity of the laboratory-produced BFI samples relative to the
315 measured ¹⁴C activity of the standard gases with a mass balance approach (Section 1.2 of the
Supplementary Materials, Tables S8 and S9). Finally, the samples were corrected for the effects of post-
coring in situ ¹⁴CO₂ production in ice using results from the field-produced BFI samples (Section 1.3 of the
Supplementary Materials, Table S10). The ¹⁴CO₂ measurements in our samples after all associated
corrections with their error-propagated uncertainties are shown in Table 1 and Fig. 3.

320 An in-depth discussion about the analytical uncertainty of the ¹⁴CO₂ measurements obtained from the
sublimation method (which is important to the interpretation of the data because it is the largest source of
uncertainty for total ¹⁴C) are provided in Section 1.4 of the Supplementary Materials. In brief, we used the
pooled standard deviation of replicate pairs (± 7.8 ¹⁴CO₂ molecules/g ice, 2σ) as the uncertainty for all
¹⁴CO₂ measurements except the 2.25 m sample pair (where we used the error-propagated uncertainties
325 instead, Table 1). The ¹⁴CH₄/¹⁴CO ratio, ¹⁴CO/total ¹⁴C fraction and ¹⁴CO₂/total ¹⁴C fraction of the samples
are shown in Fig. 4.

2.4. Sample integrity

Several samples were excluded from the data analysis; detailed reasoning for rejecting these samples
is discussed in Sections 2 and 3 of the Supplementary Materials. The surface samples (0.75m depth) for all
330 three ¹⁴C species (¹⁴CO, ¹⁴CH₄, ¹⁴CO₂) are rejected because of ambient air contamination from abundant
fractures in the ice sample (due to thermal stresses in near-surface ice) and likely chemical and/or
biological alteration of CH₄, CO, and CO₂. The 19.5m and 30m ¹⁴CO and ¹⁴CH₄ samples from 2015/2016
season were rejected because of anomalous alterations in TAC, [CO], and [CH₄]. The 30m ¹⁴CO₂ sample
was also rejected due to alteration in [CO₂].

335 3. Estimating the muogenic ¹⁴C production rates

3.1. Ice flow model to constrain sample exposure history



We used a 2D ice flow model from Buizert et al. (2012) to generate flow trajectories for the ice parcels corresponding to each sample depth (Fig. 5). The model first computes the 2D steady-state ice-flow velocity field based on the observed surface velocities, ablation rates, and glacier thickness, then generates an ice parcel back-trajectory using 2D linear interpolation of the ice-flow velocity field (Kavanaugh et al., 2009a; Kavanaugh and Cuffey, 2009; Kavanaugh et al., 2009b; Bliss et al., 2011). The largest source of uncertainty for the trajectories are the ablation rates (Buizert et al., 2012), which are based on measurements of 163 poles initially planted in 2002/2003 (Kavanaugh et al., 2009b; Bliss et al., 2011). All survey poles were measured a year later, providing 1-yr average ablation rate estimates (Kavanaugh et al., 2009b) and again in 2006/2007 season. Additionally, 17 poles were remeasured in 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 seasons (Buizert et al., 2012). The 4-yr average ablation rates were 4.7cm yr⁻¹ higher than the 1-yr average (Kavanaugh et al., 2009b); following Buizert et al. (2012), the ablation rate uncertainty for each pole was calculated by dividing 4.7cm yr⁻¹ with \sqrt{N} where N is the length of the observation period in years (N = 1, 4, 7 or 8). Fig. S3 shows the ablation rates along the glacier and their uncertainties inferred from survey pole data.

The ice flow model used a bedrock profile from Kavanaugh et al. (2009a); however, the bedrock profile only extends to 72 km away from the glacier terminus, a point which we refer to as the glacier head (Fig. 5). This bedrock profile corresponds to 5-6 kyr of ice flow history and approximately one ¹⁴C half-life. Beyond the constraints from the bedrock profile, we had to make an assumption about the depth of long-term transport (z_{deep}). Morse et al. (1998) provided a radar-based bedrock profile that includes the Taylor Glacier snow accumulation area (Baggenstos et al., 2018) north of Taylor Dome – approximately 60 km upstream from the glacier head where the Kavanaugh et al. (2009a) bedrock profile ends. Based on the bedrock profile from Morse et al. (1998), at the Taylor Glacier accumulation area, the depth of ~ 80 kyr ice (which corresponds to our 72 m sample) is ~ 575 m. We thus assumed that the depth of long-term transport (z_{deep}) for the 72 m sample under the best-estimate ablation rate scenario (which we define as the reference sample) is 575 m. For other ice parcel trajectories (i), we scaled the depth of long-term transport (z_{deep}) following

$$z_{\text{deep}}(i) = 575 - (z_{\text{ref}} - z_{\text{head}}(i)) \quad \text{Eq.5}$$

where z_{ref} represents the depth of the 72 m reference sample in the model at the glacier head under the best-estimate flowline (z_{ref} is 699 m) and z_{head} represents the depth of the ice parcel of interest at the glacier head. We assumed that the difference in depth between the reference sample and the sample of interest (i) at the glacier head and during long-term transport within the glacier is the same.

3.2. ¹⁴C production in sample ice parcel

We used the model for *in situ* cosmogenic nuclide production by muons from Balco et al. (2008), with all relevant parameters adjusted for ice (Fig.1). This model in turn uses the Heisinger et al. (2002a),



370 2002b) parameterizations described above and additional altitude scaling of the muon fluxes. We then used
a forward model that numerically integrates the total ^{14}C in the ice sample along its flow path in Taylor
Glacier. For initial condition, we assumed that at the depth of long-term transport (z_{deep}), the ^{14}C
concentration in the ice parcel is at steady state:

$$\frac{dC}{dt}(\text{at } z_{\text{deep}}) = 0 = P_{\text{neg}}(z_{\text{deep}}) + P_{\text{fast}}(z_{\text{deep}}) - C_0\lambda \quad \text{Eq.6}$$

The steady state assumption means that at z_{deep} , the rate of radioactive decay ($C_0\lambda$) is balanced by
375 production from negative muon capture (P_{neg}) and fast muon reaction (P_{fast}). For each ice parcel, we
calculated the steady-state, initial ^{14}C concentration (C_0) from Eq.6, then used the following differential
equation

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = P_{\text{neg}}(z(t)) + P_{\text{fast}}(z(t)) - C\lambda \quad \text{Eq.7}$$

to numerically integrate the ^{14}C concentration of the ice parcel along the flow trajectory. To avoid
interference from spallogenic (neutron-produced) ^{14}C , we only considered samples deeper than 6.85m
380 depth.

We sampled the parameter space in a “grid search” approach to obtain the best-estimate values for
muogenic ^{14}C production parameters σ_0 and f_{tot} , as follows. Using the best-estimate flow trajectory, we
calculated the expected ^{14}C in the samples corresponding to all combinations of σ_0 and f_{tot} , with each of the
parameters ranging between 0-100% of the values from Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b). To save
385 computational time, we first conducted the grid search at a coarse resolution of 10% increments (Fig. S4A).
The goodness of the fit (χ^2) for each simulation was calculated following:

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(C_{\text{obs}}(z) - C_{\text{exp}}(z))^2}{C_{\text{exp}}(z)} \quad \text{Eq.8}$$

where $C_{\text{obs}}(z)$ is the measured total ^{14}C and $C_{\text{exp}}(z)$ is the total ^{14}C ($^{14}\text{CO}_2 + ^{14}\text{CO} + ^{14}\text{CH}_4$; Fig. 3D)
calculated by the forward model at sample depth z . To find more precise best-estimate σ_0 and f_{tot} , we
conducted the grid-search again at a higher resolution of 0.2% increments from Heisinger et al. (2002a,
390 2002b) values near the χ^2 minimum, between 0 to 0.0352 millibarn for σ_0 and 0 to 0.01 for f_{tot} (Fig. S4B).

To estimate the uncertainties in σ_0 and f_{tot} , we used a Monte Carlo sampling of model parameters. We
assumed that the ablation rate uncertainties (Fig. S3) represent 2σ normally distributed uncertainties. We
then perturbed the ablation rates within their uncertainties and generated a pool of 10,000 possible flow
trajectories for each sample depth. However, in 69 out of 10,000 flow scenarios, the ice parcel back-
trajectories hit the bedrock and became unphysical afterwards. These unphysical trajectories were removed
395 from the pool of possible ice flow trajectories. Next, we started with the best-estimate σ_0 and f_{tot}
and assumed a normally distributed and large 200% (1σ) error for each parameter (Fig. S5A) as prior
distribution for the Monte Carlo method. We removed σ_0 and f_{tot} values that are below zero from the prior
distribution because they are unphysical and conducted 100,000 Monte Carlo simulations using the forward



400 ^{14}C production model. For each Monte Carlo simulation, we randomly picked one of the previously
generated possible ice flow trajectories and a random pair of σ_0 and f_{tot} from the generated prior
distributions (Fig. S5A). We then calculated the expected ^{14}C concentrations for each sample depth using
the forward model and compared the model-data fit. We accept all pairs of σ_0 and f_{tot} values that produce
model-calculated total ^{14}C within the 95% CI (7.8 ^{14}C atoms g^{-1} ice) and 67% CI (3.9 ^{14}C atoms g^{-1} ice)
405 analytical uncertainty of the best-fit, model-calculated total ^{14}C (black line, Fig. 6). The ranges of accepted
 σ_0 and f_{tot} pairs are shown in Fig. 7A as contours. The discussion about the selection of acceptance criteria
for estimating σ_0 and f_{tot} uncertainties is provided in Section 1.4 of the Supplementary Material.

3.3 ^{14}CO production model in sample ice parcel

The in-situ cosmogenic ^{14}CO production rates in ice are of specific interest as discussed in Section 1.1.
410 To characterize the ^{14}CO production rates, we introduced additional scaling factors f_{neg} and f_{fast} for negative
muon and fast muon mechanisms, respectively as tuned model parameters. The differential equation of
Eq.7 is modified into

$$\frac{d(^{14}\text{CO})}{dt} = f_{\text{neg}}P_{\text{neg}}(z(t)) + f_{\text{fast}}P_{\text{fast}}(z(t)) - (^{14}\text{CO})\lambda \quad \text{Eq.9}$$

We note that P_{neg} and P_{fast} in Eq.9 are the total ^{14}C production rates calculated from the Balco et al. (2008)
model. The scaling factors f_{neg} and f_{fast} each encompasses 2 terms, one that adjusts the total ^{14}C production
415 rates and another that accounts for the ^{14}CO fraction of total ^{14}C . The determination of best-estimate f_{neg}
and f_{fast} and their uncertainties were similar to the approach for σ_0 and f_{tot} described above. χ^2 “grid-search”
was conducted with all combinations of f_{neg} and f_{fast} values ranging from 0 to 0.2 at 0.001 resolution (Fig.
S4C). Similar to the total ^{14}C data, we used the average analytical uncertainty of the ^{14}CO sample set as the
acceptance criteria for the Monte Carlo simulations to estimate the uncertainties of f_{neg} and f_{fast} . We
420 accepted all sets of f_{neg} and f_{fast} from the 100,000 Monte Carlo simulations that yielded model-predicted
 ^{14}CO within 1.2 ^{14}CO molecules g^{-1} ice (95% CI uncertainty) and 0.6 ^{14}CO molecules g^{-1} ice (68% CI
uncertainty) from the best-fit model (Fig. 8). Fig. 7B shows (as contours) the accepted sets of f_{neg} and f_{fast}
values.

3.3. Comparison with Scharffenbergbotnen ablation site

425 van Der Kemp et al. (2002) measured $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO in ice from the Scharffenbergbotnen ice
ablation site, Antarctica. Using a 1D ablation model, we examined how the estimates of muogenic ^{14}C
production rates from Taylor Glacier compare to the Scharffenbergbotnen data. We assumed that the
measured $^{14}\text{CO}_2 + ^{14}\text{CO}$ from Scharffenbergbotnen are comparable to our measurements of total ^{14}C in
Taylor Glacier ice (since our data show that less than 0.3% of total ^{14}C from muon production forms $^{14}\text{CH}_4$,
430 Section 4.1). We then used the ^{14}C concentration from the deepest Scharffenbergbotnen sample (45m) as



the initial condition. In the 1D ablation model, the Scharffenbergbotnen ice parcel moves upward at a rate (dz/dt) equal to the ablation rate from stake measurements (Eq.10, $a = 16 \pm 4 \text{ cm yr}^{-1}$).

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = -a \quad \text{Eq.10}$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = P'_n(z(t)) + P'_{\text{neg}}(z(t)) + P'_{\text{fast}}(z(t)) - C\lambda \quad \text{Eq.11}$$

The expected ^{14}C concentration in the ice is given by the differential equation (Eq.11) where P'_n is the ^{14}C spallogenic production rate from Young et al. (2014), P'_{neg} and P'_{fast} are the muogenic production rates
435 inferred from Taylor Glacier data scaled to the elevation of Scharffenbergbotnen (1173m above sea level) using altitude scaling factors from Balco et al. (2008). We also repeated this calculation for ^{14}CO only, to compare the muogenic ^{14}CO production rates with the ^{14}CO data from Scharffenbergbotnen.

4. Results and Discussions

4.1. Measured ^{14}C values and partitioning of $^{14}\text{CO}_2$, ^{14}CO and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$

440 Table 1 and Fig.3a-c show the depth profiles of ^{14}CO , $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ and $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ after all corrections. For the $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements, comparison with prior results that used a wet extraction approach (Fig. S6) confirms the caveats discussed by Petrenko et al. (2016) that their $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements were uncertain and represent the upper bound. The $^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratios from the new samples (0.0074 ± 0.0004 , 95% CI, $n=4$, from all samples below 19.5m) appear to be constant within uncertainties (Fig. 4A), in agreement with earlier
445 results (0.0076 ± 0.0004 , 95% CI, $n=4$) from Petrenko et al. (2016). This confirms that the two muon reactions produce ^{14}C in a constant $^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratio. The ^{14}CO and $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ fractions of total ^{14}C are also relatively constant at depth (Fig. 4B) – suggesting that the two muon reactions produce all three ^{14}C species in constant ratios. For samples deeper than 6.85m, on average 33.7% ($\pm 11.4\%$, 95% CI) of the produced cosmogenic ^{14}C becomes ^{14}CO and 66.1% ($\pm 11.5\%$, 95% CI) of the produced cosmogenic ^{14}C becomes
450 $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ (Fig. 4B). The uncertainties of ^{14}CO and $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ fractions on the deepest samples (72m depth) are relatively large because of the small $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ signal (11.8 to 13.6 $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ molecules/g ice) relative to the uncertainty of our measurements (± 7.8 $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ molecules/g ice, 95% CI). The $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ fraction in samples that are deeper than 6.85m (0.66 ± 0.12 , 95% CI) is also in agreement with prior reported $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ fraction of 0.69 from the Scharffenbergbotnen ablation site (van Der Kemp et al., 2002). Finally, the shallow samples (<6m
455 ice equivalent) show higher $^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratios (Fig. 4A) and $^{14}\text{CO}_2/\text{total } ^{14}\text{C}$ ratios. This may indicate that neutron-induced spallation produces higher amounts of $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ and $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ relative to ^{14}CO (Petrenko et al., 2016) or that CO (and ^{14}CO) is not well-preserved in near-surface ice of Taylor Glacier due to potential microbial activities.

460 At depths where production from muons dominates (>6 m ice equivalent), less than 0.3% of the produced cosmogenic ^{14}C in ice forms $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ (Table 1, Fig. 4). Although a $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ measurement from 10 m



depth is not available (Petrenko et al., 2016), we still include the 10 m data point in the total ^{14}C dataset used to infer σ_0 and f_{tot} values and their uncertainties. The contribution from $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ (which would have been on the order of ~ 0.2 $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ molecules/g ice, Fig. 3B) is insignificant compared to the uncertainty in total ^{14}C . We account for the lack of $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ measurement at this depth by scaling the total ^{14}C of the 10 m sample by a factor of 1.003 ± 0.003 (95% CI, Table 1).

4.2. Inferred muogenic ^{14}C production rates in ice

The muogenic ^{14}C production parameters from Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b) (f_{tot} for negative muon capture and σ_0 for fast muon reaction) are well outside the confidence intervals of our measurements (Table 2, Figs. 6A and 7A). Using the larger uncertainty for $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements obtained from step-by-step error propagation (Section 1.4 of Supplementary Materials, Fig. S7) does not change this conclusion. Our results indicate that the probability of the negative muon capture reaction (f_{tot}) and reference cross-section for fast muon mechanism (σ_0) for production of ^{14}C from ^{16}O given by Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b) are too high by factors of 5.7 (3.6-13.9, 95% CI) and 3.7 (2.0-11.9, 95% CI) respectively.

In their experimental determination of ^{14}C production rate by fast muons, Heisinger et al. (2002a) used a single muon energy of 190 GeV ($\sigma(E)$). The reference nuclear reaction cross section at 1 GeV (σ_0) was then scaled using the following equation

$$\sigma(E) = \sigma_0 \bar{E}^\alpha \quad \text{Eq.12}$$

where α is a power factor that describes the energy dependence of the cross section (unitless). However, the mean muon energy (\bar{E}) of 190 GeV used by Heisinger et al. (2002a), as well as the muon flux intensity were much higher than those expected in the first few hundred meters of ice in natural settings (for the top 200m of Taylor Glacier ice, $\bar{E} = 32$ GeV Fig. S8). It is thus possible that the experimental results of Heisinger et al (2002 a,b) are not directly transferrable to natural settings.

van Der Kemp et al. (2002) measured $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO in ice from Scharffenbergbotnen ice ablation site using a dry extraction technique. The total measured ^{14}C values were significantly lower than expected values based on the stake-measured ablation rate. van Der Kemp et al. (2002) hypothesized that the low extraction efficiency of dry mechanical extraction (which resulted in an incomplete release of the *in situ* cosmogenically produced ^{14}C from the ice grains) might be responsible for this discrepancy. We used a sublimation method for our $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements and melt extraction method for our ^{14}CO measurements; both methods guarantee that all *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C in the ice lattice is released. Fig.9 shows how the Scharffenbergbotnen data compare with the expected total ^{14}C and ^{14}CO from Taylor Glacier-derived production rates. The good agreement between the muogenic ^{14}C production rates implied by our measurements and by van der Kemp et al. (2002) measurements suggests that the discrepancy between the ^{14}C measurements and predictions based on ablation stake readings at Scharffenbergbotnen likely stems



from the fact that the muogenic ^{14}C production rates from Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b) used by van der Kemp et al. (2002) were too high.

495 The good agreement between Taylor Glacier and Scharffenbergbotnen data also suggests that dry mechanical extraction is a valid technique for extracting $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO from ice cores, at least for bubbly, non-clathrated ice. One possible explanation is that that after production, *in situ* $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO quickly migrate from the ice matrix to the air bubbles. This is also consistent with previous observations that the retention of *in situ* cosmogenic ^{14}C in firn grains is very low (Petrenko et al., 2013; van der Kemp et al., 2000; Wilson and Donahue, 1992).

500 For direct comparison with other studies, we used the scaling factors from Lifton et al. (2014) to calculate the corresponding sea level high latitude (SLHL) total ^{14}C and ^{14}CO -specific production rates in ice (Tables 2 and 3). Our estimates of the ^{14}CO -specific production rates agree with those of Petrenko et al. (2016) within errors (Table 3). Compared with the results from Petrenko et al. (2016), we also calculated a slightly smaller uncertainty on the ^{14}CO -specific production rate by negative muon capture (Table 3).

505 We converted the Lupker et al. (2015) estimates of f_{tot} in quartz into f_{tot} for ice (Table 2), using the chemical compound factors (f_c) for quartz and ice from Heisinger et al. (2002b). With regards to negative muon capture, the Lupker et al. (2015) estimate of f_{tot} is in close agreement with Heisinger et al. (2002b) (Table 2). However, the high f_{tot} had to be offset by their best σ_0 estimate of zero for an overall lower total muogenic production rate, which is in general agreement with our results. For a direct comparison with results from Lupker et al. (2015), we fit our data while forcing σ_0 (and hence ^{14}C production from fast muons) to be zero (Fig. 6b) and cannot find a scenario with reasonable model-data agreement.

510 Because of the relatively large uncertainty of the $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements, the total ^{14}C data still allow σ_0 to be close to zero given sufficiently large f_{tot} (Fig. 7A). On the other hand, our ^{14}CO data (which have much lower relative uncertainties and use a more established measurement technique) unambiguously shows that σ_0 and ^{14}C production from fast muon cannot be zero (Fig. 8, Fig. 7B). As discussed in Lupker et al. (2015), the ^{14}C data from the 15.5m Leymon-High quartzite core might not cover the depth range where production from fast muons is significant. In contrast, when integrated over the flow history, production from fast muons represents the dominant source of ^{14}C in our samples.

520 4.3. Implications for muogenic ^{14}C production rates in quartz

There are several additional uncertainties to consider when transferring the muogenic ^{14}C production rates in ice estimated by this study to quartz. The reference cross-section σ_0 for the fast muon mechanism is independent of the target mineral, so our estimate should be directly applicable to quartz. On the other hand, the ratio of chemical compound factors (f_c) between quartz and ice (Heisinger et al., 2002b; von Egidy and Hartmann, 1982) is needed to convert our estimate of f_{tot} in ice to quartz. The chemical compound factor of ice/water is known to be 1, as hydrogen cannot capture muons. However, the chemical



compound factor of quartz is not 1 because the stopped muon can also be captured by silicon atoms (von Egidy and Hartmann, 1982). Constraining the chemical compound factor of quartz is beyond the scope of this study. Nonetheless, it seems highly unlikely that the chemical compound factor of quartz is incorrect by a factor of ~5.

Although $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO likely constitute the large majority of *in situ* produced ^{14}C in ice (Lal et al., 1997, 2000), a small amount of *in situ* produced ^{14}C can also form ^{14}C -bearing organic materials. Measurements of ^{14}C in organic carbon from alpine ice for the purpose of radiocarbon dating have shown elevated ^{14}C values attributed to *in situ* cosmogenic production (Fang et al., 2021; Hoffmann, 2016). A laboratory irradiation experiment of glacier ice with an artificial neutron flux showed that 11-25% of produced ^{14}C forms organic carbon (Hoffmann, 2016). Measuring ^{14}C in organic compounds is also unfortunately beyond the scope of this study, as it requires an entirely different analytical setup. Even if other organic species account for as much as 25% of the total ^{14}C , it would still not explain the large discrepancy in f_{tot} and σ_0 values observed between our results and the Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b) values.

5. Conclusions

This study presents $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements in ablating ice obtained via a new ice sublimation technique, combined with ^{14}CO and $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ measurements obtained from a well-established large-volume melt-extraction method to estimate the total *in situ*-produced cosmogenic ^{14}C in ice. Our results indicate that commonly used literature values for rates of *in situ* production of ^{14}C by muons in ice are overestimated by a factor of 5.7 (3.6-13.9, 95% CI) and 3.7 (2.0-11.9, 95% CI) for negative muon capture and fast muon interactions, respectively. Comparison between the data presented in this study and previous data from Scharffenbergbotnen (van der Kemp et al., 2002) strengthens this conclusion. This comparison also suggests that a dry extraction technique appears to release essentially all *in situ* ^{14}C in bubbly (non-clathrated) ice.

The constraints on muogenic ^{14}C production rates in ice and the partitioning between the in-situ produced ^{14}C -bearing gas species provided by this study will allow for future measurements of ^{14}C gases in other ice cores to be used for several applications, including using $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements for absolute dating of the bubbles in ice cores (Andree et al., 1984; Van De Wal et al., 1994) and using ^{14}CO measurements to either constrain the oxidative capacity of the atmosphere (Brenninkmeijer et al., 1992; Petrenko et al., 2021) or reconstruct the past cosmic ray flux (BenZvi et al., 2019).

Finally, our results also strongly imply that the muogenic ^{14}C production rates in quartz (Heisinger et al., 2002a, Heisinger et al., 2002b) are overestimated, although there may be additional uncertainties in transferring our results from ice to quartz. The disagreement between the muogenic ^{14}C production rates



560 inferred from laboratory experiments (Heisinger et al., 2002a, Heisinger et al., 2002b) and measurements in
natural settings (this study, Lupker et al., 2015) highlights the need for more site calibration studies.

6. Data availability

Data from this work will be available through the USAP Data Center (<https://www.usap-dc.org/data>).

565 7. Author Contributions

VVP, EJB and JPS designed the study. MND and VVP conducted field logistical preparations. MND, VVP, PN, AMS, JAM, SAS, HR, BB, EJB and JRM conducted the field sampling, on-site sample cutting and processing. MND, VVP, AMS and PN extracted the large air samples using the on-site large volume melter. MND extracted the CH₄ and CO from large air samples. BH, VVP, MND, and PFP developed and tested the sublimation system with input from JS. MND extracted the CO₂ using the newly built sublimation system with assistance from BH and PFP. QH and BY graphitized the ¹⁴C samples. AMS conducted the ¹⁴C measurements. CA and JAM conducted the CH₄ CFA measurements under supervision of EJB. CA developed the age-scale under supervision of EJB. SEM and IV made the δ¹³C-CH₄ stable isotopes measurements. JPS made the Xe/Kr, Kr/N₂ and Xe/N₂ measurements. RB made the δ¹⁵N₂, δ¹⁸O_{atm},
570 ⁴⁰Ar/³⁶Ar, O₂/N₂ and Ar/N₂ measurements. CH made the [CH₄] and halogenated trace gas measurements under supervision of RFW. MK made the discrete [CH₄] mole fraction and total air content measurements. IV made the δ¹³CO measurement for the CO dilution gas. CB developed the ice flow model. MND developed the ¹⁴C production model with input from CB and VVP. MND, BH, and VVP analysed the results and wrote the manuscript with input from all authors.

580 8. Competing interests

We declare no competing interests

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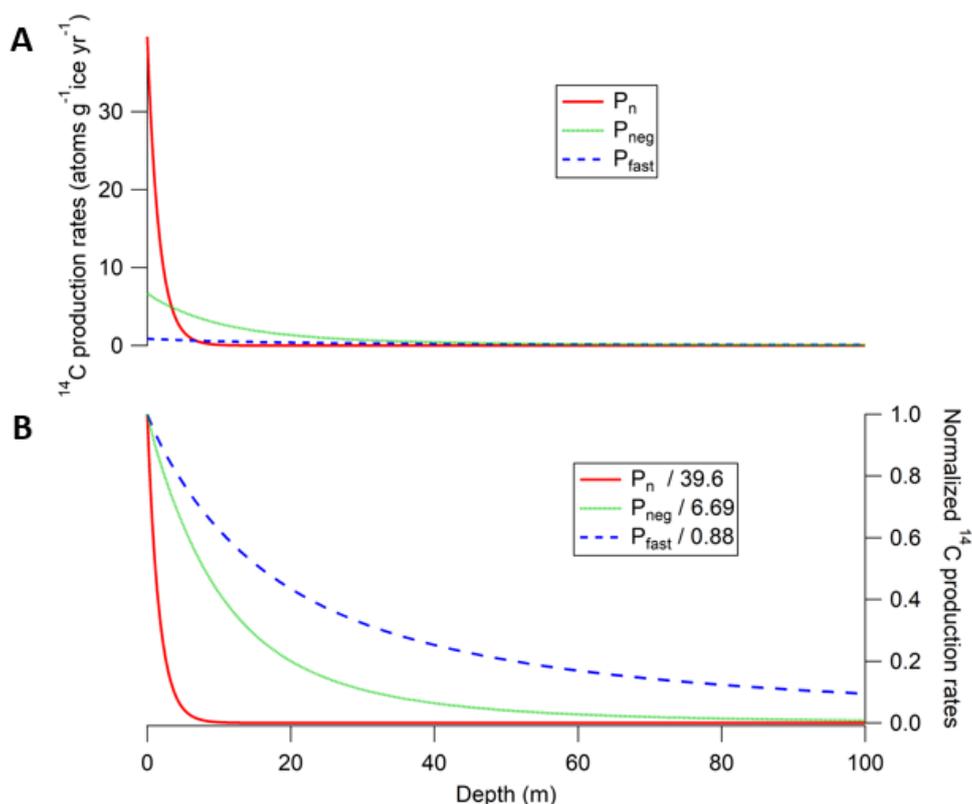
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825 **Fig. 1. (A) In-situ cosmogenic ^{14}C production rates scaled for Taylor Glacier study site ($77^{\circ}44'\text{S}$, $162^{\circ}10'\text{E}$, 526m elevation) from the three nuclear mechanisms: neutron-induced spallation (P_n), negative muon capture (P_{neg}), and fast muon interactions (P_{fast}). (B) Depth profiles of the three production mechanisms normalized to their respective surface production rates (the respective surface production rates are shown in the legend). For ^{14}C production from neutron spallation, we used the surface production rate estimate from Young et al. (2014) with scaling from Lifton et al. (2014). For the two muon mechanisms (negative and fast muons), we used the production rate model from Balco et al. (2008), which follows parametrizations by Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b).**

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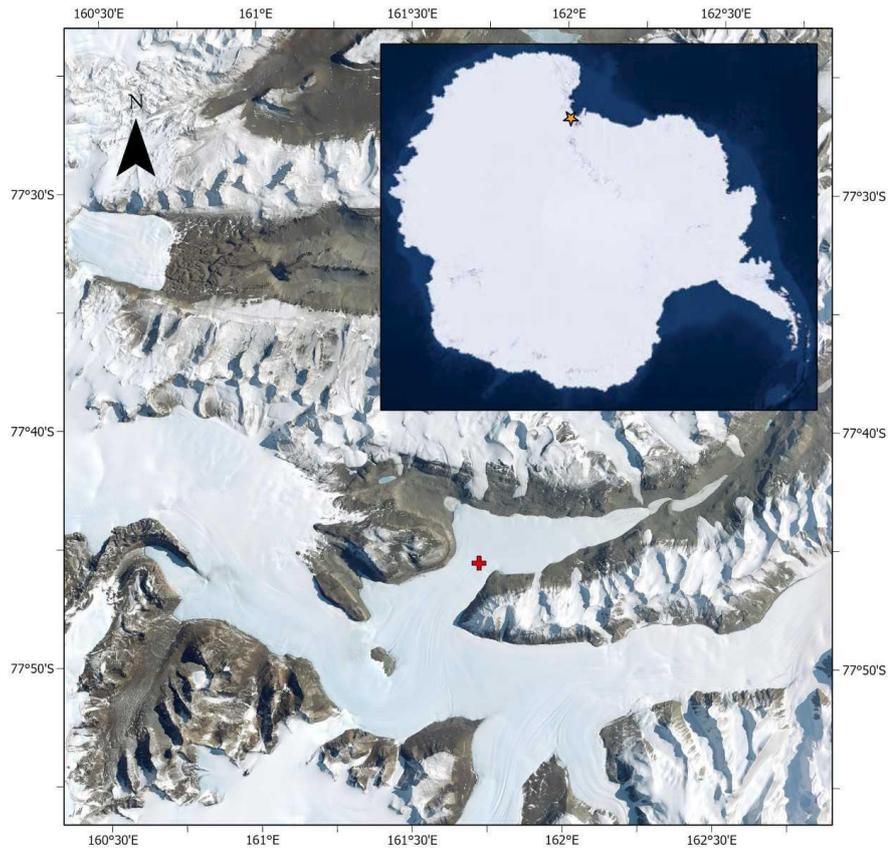


Fig. 2. Map of the Taylor Glacier study site. The sampling location is marked by a red (+) sign on the map. The orange star sign on the inset map shows the location of Taylor Glacier relative to the Antarctic continent. Map made using ArcGIS Pro with Imagery layers from ESRI and EarthStar Geographics.

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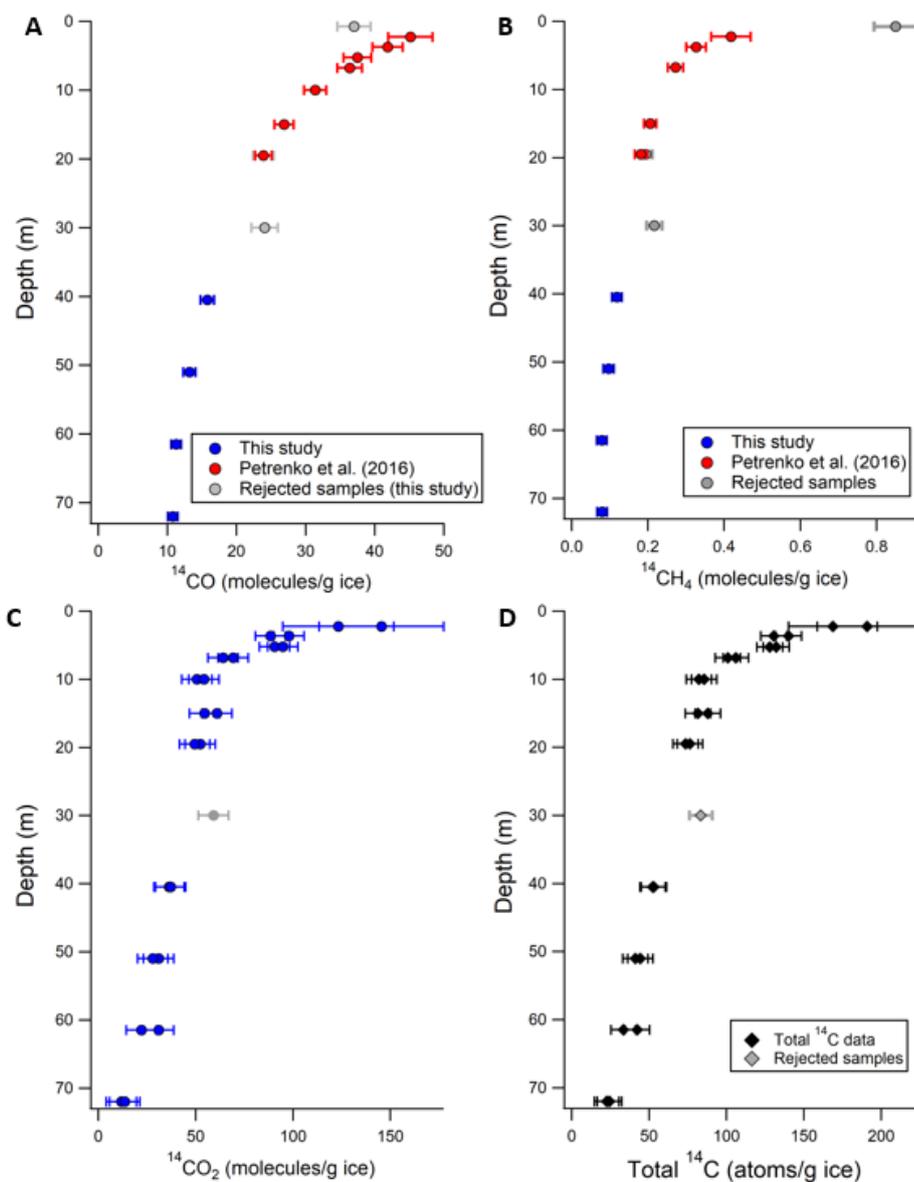
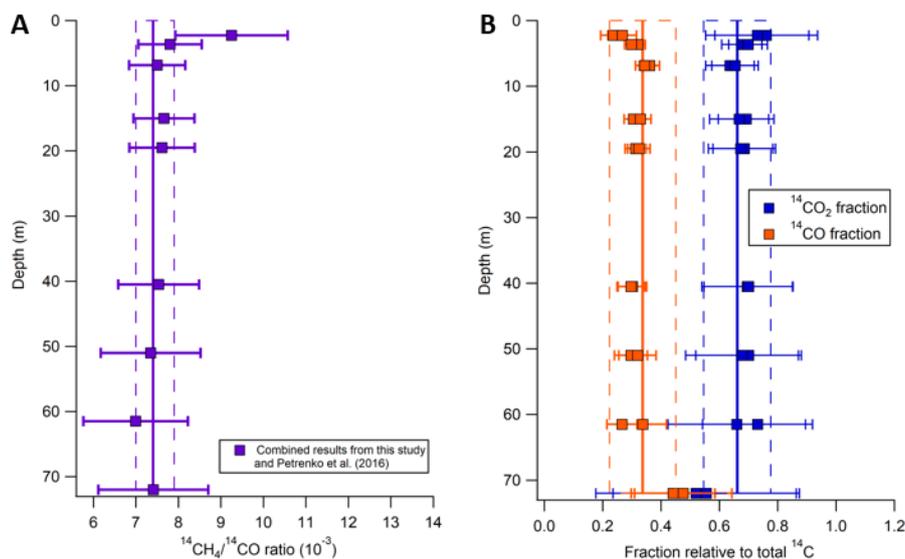
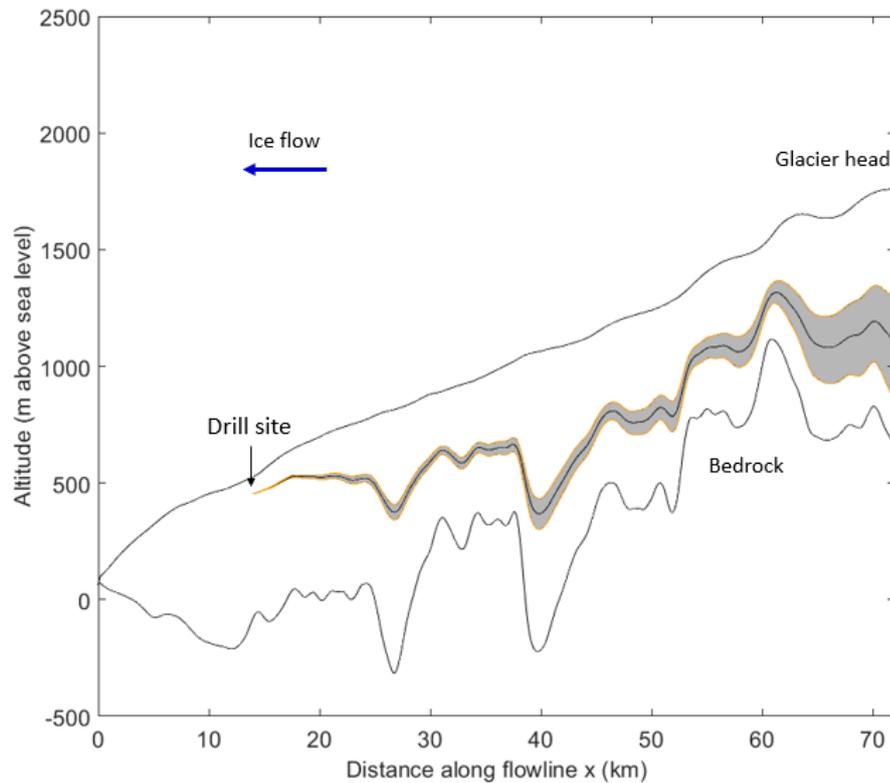


Fig. 3. (A). Measured ^{14}CO molecules/g ice after all corrections. (B) Measured $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ molecules/g ice after all corrections. (C) Measured $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ molecules/g ice after all corrections. (D) Total measured ^{14}C atoms/g ice. This represents the sum of ^{14}CO , $^{14}\text{CH}_4$, and sublimation-based $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ measurements. All error bars shown in this figure are 95% CI.

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845 **Fig. 4.** (A) $^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratio. (B) $^{14}\text{CO}/\text{total }^{14}\text{C}$ fraction and $^{14}\text{CO}_2/\text{total }^{14}\text{C}$ fraction. The solid lines represent the mean and the dashed lines represent 2 standard deviations of the $^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratio, $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO fractions for samples deeper than 6.85 m where production by muons dominates. The ratios for rejected samples (Section 4.1, Supplementary Materials Section 2) are not shown. All error bars shown in this figure are 95% CI.



850 **Fig. 5. Example of ice parcel back-trajectory and associated uncertainties.** For the Monte-Carlo
estimate of uncertainties (Section 5.4.2), for each given sample depth (72 m in this figure), 10,000 back
trajectories are generated. Each back trajectory corresponds to a different ablation rate scenario (the
ablation rates are perturbed within their experimental measurement uncertainties to generate the scenarios).
The shaded region represents the 68% CI uncertainty envelope of the flow trajectory.
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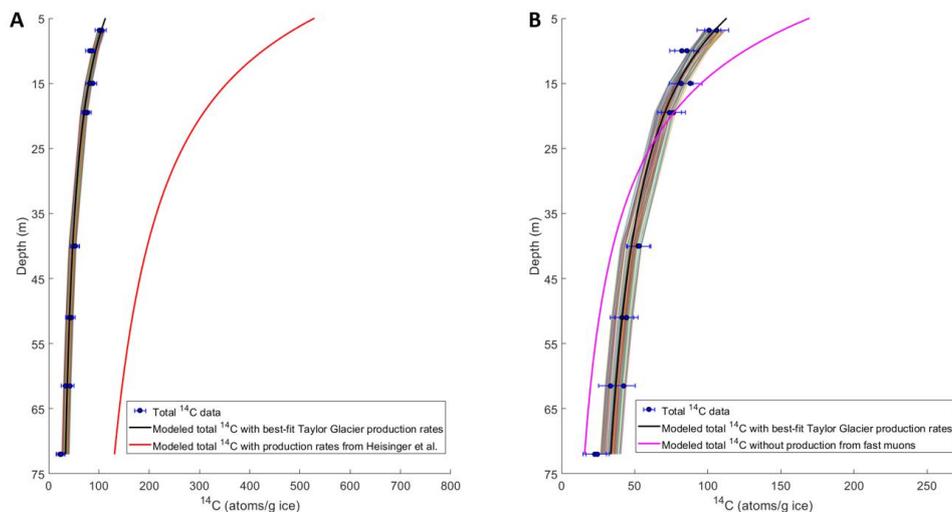


Fig. 6. (A). Model-data comparison between total ^{14}C measurements with modeled best-estimate σ_0 and f_{tot} parameters from this study and Heisinger et al. (2002a,b). (B). Model-data comparison between total ^{14}C measurements with modeled best-estimate σ_0 and f_{tot} parameters from this study and modeled total ^{14}C with best-fit f_{tot} when σ_0 is forced to be zero. The colored lines on both figures represent the 95% CI envelope of the model results (corresponding to the contour plot in Fig. 7A). The error bars shown on the data are also 95% CI. We only fit to samples that are below 6.85m to avoid interference from ^{14}C produced by the neutron mechanism.

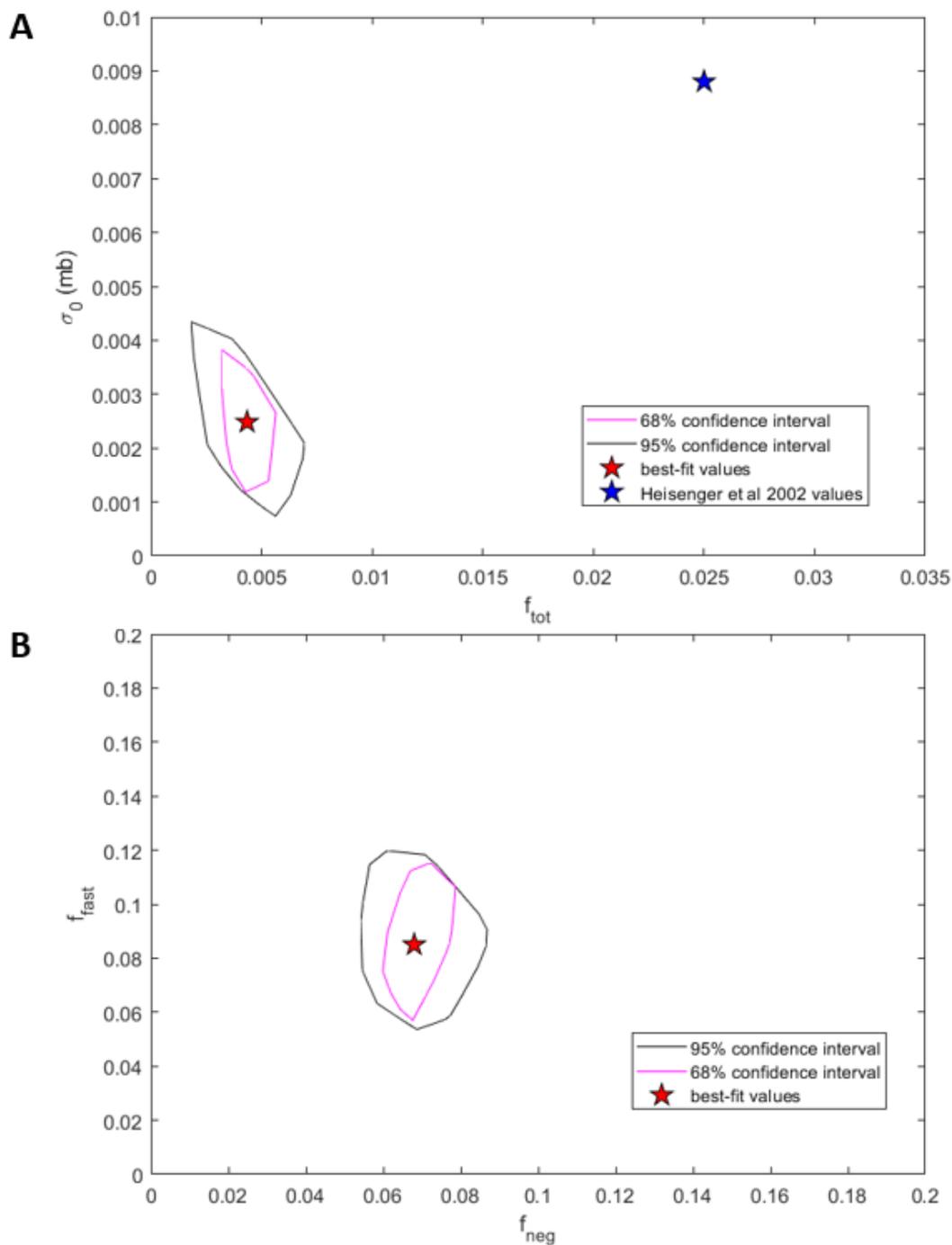


Fig.7. (A). 68% and 95% CI contours of accepted σ_0 and f_{tot} values for total ^{14}C . (B) 68% and 95% CI contours of accepted f_{neg} and f_{fast} values for ^{14}CO (see Section 5.4.3). For comparison, the σ_0 and f_{tot} values from Heisinger et al. (2002a, 2002b) are shown as a blue star. The best-fit values for σ_0 , f_{tot} , f_{neg} , and f_{fast} are shown as a red star in both figures.

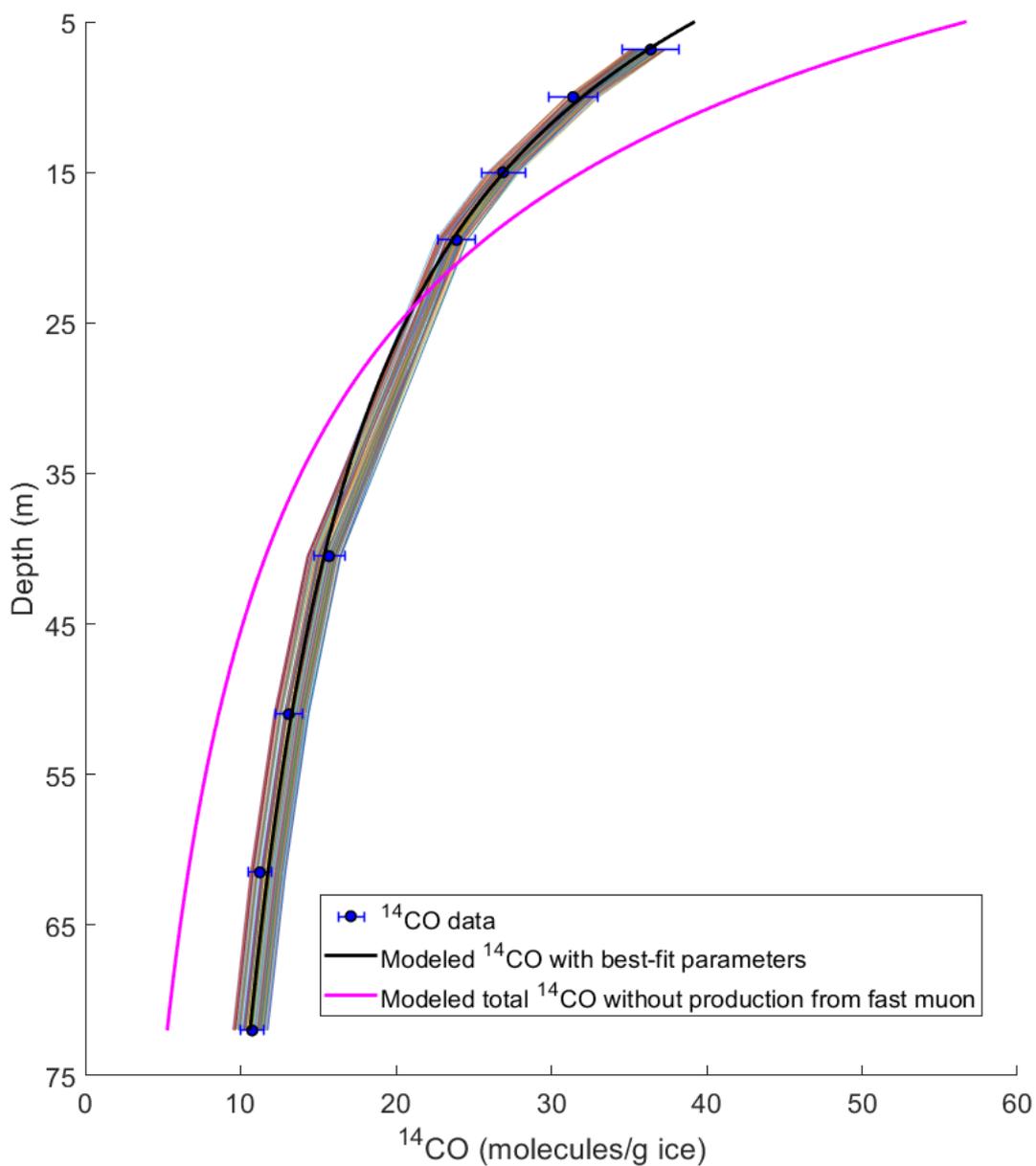
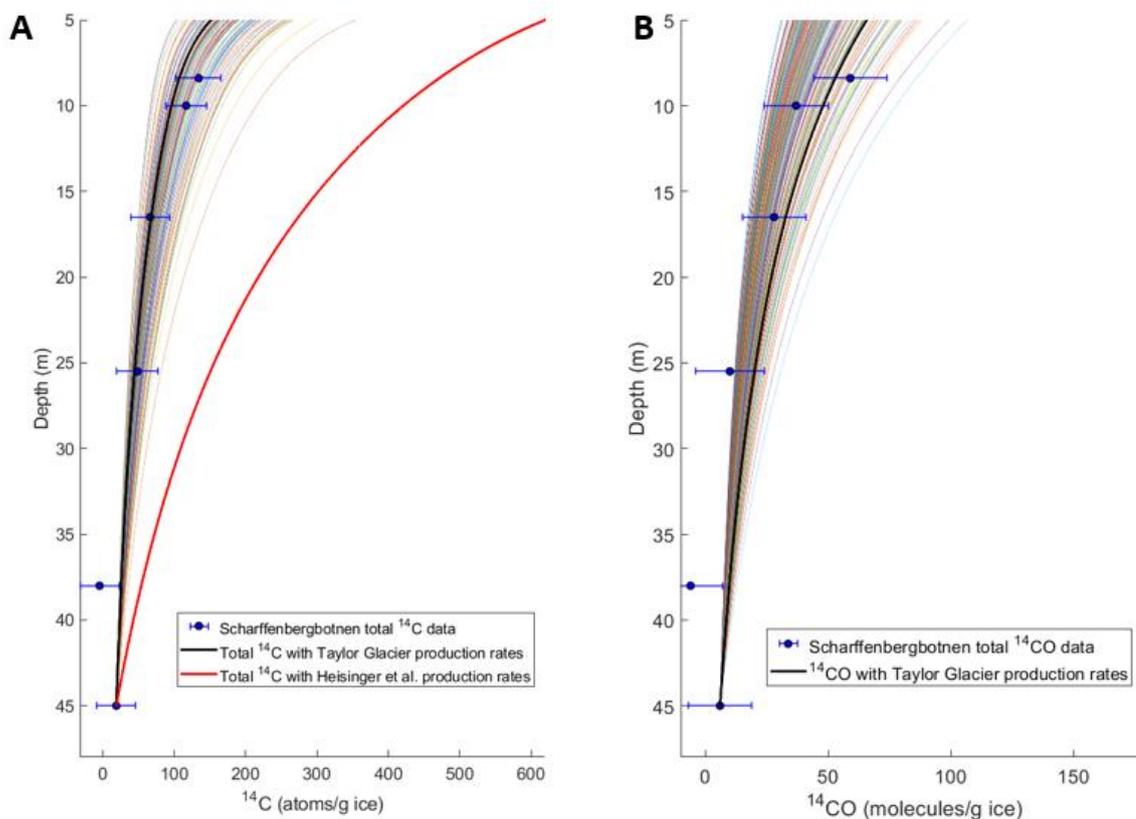


Fig.8. Model-data comparison between ^{14}CO measurements with modeled best-estimate f_{neg} and f_{fast} parameters from this study and modeled ^{14}CO with best-fit f_{neg} when f_{fast} is forced to be zero. The colored lines represent the 95% CI envelope of the model results (corresponding to the contour plot in Fig. 7B). The error bars shown on the data are 95% CI.

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15 **Fig. 9. A. Comparison between measured total ^{14}C from Scharffenbergbotnen, expected total ^{14}C using production rates inferred in this study, and expected total ^{14}C using Heisinger et al. (2002a,b) production rates. B. Comparison between measured ^{14}CO from Scharffenbergbotnen and expected ^{14}CO using production rates inferred from Taylor Glacier.** The colored lines on both figures represent the 95% CI envelope of the model results. At the depths plotted in this figure (deeper than 5 m), production from neutron-induced spallation is negligible.

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Table 1. Measured $^{14}\text{CO}_2$, ^{14}CO , $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ after all associated corrections and calculated total ^{14}C , $^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratios, $^{14}\text{CO}_2$ and ^{14}CO fractions. The data from Petrenko et al. (2016) are marked with asterisks (*). All errors presented indicate the 95% CI.

Mid-depth (m)	$^{14}\text{CO}_2$ (molec/g ice)	^{14}CO (molec/g ice)	$^{14}\text{CH}_4$ (molec/g ice)	Total ^{14}C (atoms/g ice)	$^{14}\text{CH}_4/^{14}\text{CO}$ ratio	$^{14}\text{CO}_2$ fraction	^{14}CO fraction
2.25	145.5 ± 32.0	45.2 ± 3.2*	0.418 ± 0.052*	191.1 ± 32.2	0.0092 ±0.0013	0.76 ± 0.18	0.24 ± 0.04
	123.3 ± 28.5			168.9 ± 28.7		0.73 ± 0.18	0.27 ± 0.05
3.65	88.5 ± 7.8	41.9 ± 2.2*	0.327 ± 0.026*	130.7 ± 8.1	0.0078 ±0.0007	0.68 ± 0.07	0.32 ± 0.03
	98.0 ± 7.8			140.2 ± 8.1		0.70 ± 0.07	0.30 ± 0.02
6.85	64.2 ± 7.8	36.4 ± 1.8*	0.273 ± 0.020*	100.9 ± 8.0	0.0075 ±0.0007	0.64 ± 0.08	0.36 ± 0.03
	69.4 ± 7.8			106.1 ± 8.0		0.65 ± 0.08	0.34 ± 0.03
10**	50.6 ± 7.8	31.4 ± 1.6*	N/A	82.2 ± 8.0**	N/A	0.62 ± 0.10	0.38 ± 0.04
	54.3 ± 7.8			86 ± 7.9**		0.63 ± 0.10	0.37 ± 0.04
15	60.9 ± 7.8	26.9 ± 1.4*	0.206 ± 0.016*	88.0 ± 7.9	0.0077 ±0.0007	0.69 ± 0.10	0.31 ± 0.03
	54.6 ± 7.8			81.7 ± 7.9		0.67 ± 0.10	0.33 ± 0.04
19.5	52.4 ± 7.8	23.9 ± 1.2*	0.182 ± 0.016*	76.5 ± 7.9	0.0076 ±0.0008	0.69 ± 0.11	0.31 ± 0.04
	49.6 ± 7.8			73.7 ± 7.9		0.67 ± 0.11	0.32 ± 0.04
40.5	36.4 ± 7.8	15.8 ± 1.0	0.119 ± 0.013	52.3 ± 7.8	0.0075 ±0.0010	0.70 ± 0.15	0.30 ± 0.05
	37.2 ± 7.8			53.1 ± 7.9		0.70 ± 0.15	0.30 ± 0.05
51	31.1 ± 7.8	13.2 ± 0.9	0.097 ± 0.014	44.4 ± 7.8	0.0073 ±0.0012	0.70 ± 0.18	0.30 ± 0.06
	28.0 ± 7.8			41.3 ± 7.8		0.68 ± 0.19	0.32 ± 0.06
61.5	22.1 ± 7.8	11.3 ± 0.7	0.079 ± 0.013	33.5 ± 7.8	0.0070 ±0.0012	0.66 ± 0.24	0.34 ± 0.08
	31.0 ± 7.8			42.4 ± 7.8		0.73 ± 0.19	0.27 ± 0.05
72	11.8 ± 7.8	10.8 ± 0.7	0.080 ± 0.013	22.7 ± 7.8	0.0074 ±0.0013	0.52 ± 0.34	0.48 ± 0.17
	13.6 ± 7.8			24.5 ± 7.8		0.55 ± 0.32	0.44 ± 0.14

40 **the total ^{14}C value for 10m sample was scaled by a factor of 1.003 ± 0.003 (95% CI) to account for the lack of $^{14}\text{CH}_4$ measurements (Section 4.2).

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55 **Table 2. Probability of ^{14}C production from stopped negative muons (f_{tot}), reference nuclear reaction cross section for production via fast muon interactions (σ_0), and total ^{14}C production rates in ice at the surface from the two muon reactions rescaled to SLHL (sea level, high latitude) using Lifton et al. (2014) scaling. All errors shown represent 95% confidence intervals.**

	Overall probability of negative muon capture reaction (f_{tot})	Reference nuclear reaction cross section (σ_0) (millibarn)	SLHL total ^{14}C production rate in ice by negative muons	SLHL total ^{14}C production rate in ice by fast muons
			(atoms g ice $^{-1}$ yr $^{-1}$)	(atoms g ice $^{-1}$ yr $^{-1}$)
This study	0.0044 (+0.0026/-0.0026)	0.0024 (+0.0017/-0.0018)	0.79 (+0.47/-0.46)	0.21 (+0.16/-0.15)
Heisinger et al. (2002a,b)	0.025 \pm 0.004	0.0088 (+0.0098/-0.0088)	4.76 \pm 0.76	0.74 (+0.83/-0.74)
Lupker et al. (2015)*	0.024 (+0.006/-0.016)	0 (+0.0118/-0)	3.31 (+0.43/-1.07)	0 (+1.52/-0)

*adjusted to ice assuming the chemical compound factor (f_c) of ice is 1.0 and f_c for quartz is 0.704 (Heisinger et al. 2002b).

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Table 3. ^{14}CO -specific surface production rates in ice from the two muon mechanisms normalized to SLHL (sea level, high latitude) site using Lifton et al. (2014) scaling. All errors shown represent 95% confidence intervals.

	SLHL ^{14}CO production rate in ice by negative muons (molec g ice $^{-1}$ yr $^{-1}$)	SLHL ^{14}CO production rate in ice by fast muons (molec g ice $^{-1}$ yr $^{-1}$)
<i>This study</i>	0.310 (+0.075/-0.063)	0.063 (+0.022/-0.018)
<i>Petrenko et al. (2016)</i>	0.24 (+0.14/-0.14)	0.053 (+0.028/-0.028)