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Analytical chemistry: Ultrasensitive radiocarbon detection

Richard N. Zare

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Radiocarbon is rare, forming no more than one part per trillion of the total carbon content of the atmosphere. An optical method allows radiocarbon to be detected at roughly 25-fold lower levels than this, opening up fresh avenues of research.

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Author information

Affiliations

Richard N. Zare is in the Department of Chemistry, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-5080, USA.

Corresponding author

Correspondence to: Richard N. Zare

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