

$$\frac{D}{X} = \frac{D_0}{X} + \frac{N}{X} (e^{\lambda t} - 1)$$

## Pb/Pb dating and isochrons

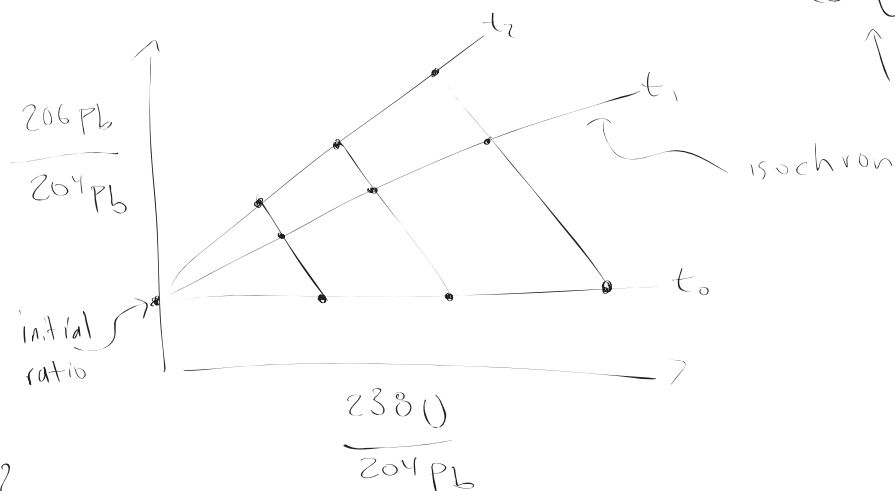
$^{238}\text{U} \rightarrow ^{206}\text{Pb}$  decay chain of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  many  $\lambda$ 's

$^{235}\text{U} \rightarrow ^{207}\text{Pb}$

$^{204}\text{Pb}$  = "common" Pb, stable, non-radiogenic

$$\textcircled{1} \frac{^{206}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} = \left( \frac{^{206}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} \right)_0 + \frac{^{238}\text{U}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} (e^{\lambda^{238}t} - 1)$$

$$\textcircled{2} \frac{^{207}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} = \left( \frac{^{207}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} \right)_0 + \frac{^{235}\text{U}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} (e^{\lambda^{235}t} - 1)$$



ratio of 1 and 2  
(divide)

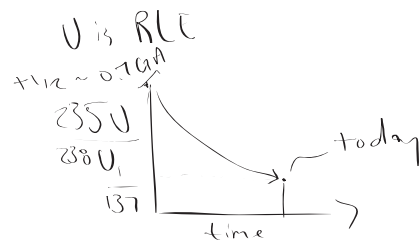
$$\frac{\frac{^{207}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} - \left( \frac{^{207}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} \right)_0}{\frac{^{206}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} - \left( \frac{^{206}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} \right)_0} = \frac{\frac{^{235}\text{U}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} (e^{\lambda^{235}t} - 1)}{\frac{^{238}\text{U}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} (e^{\lambda^{238}t} - 1)}$$

$$\frac{^{207}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} = \left( \frac{^{235}\text{U}}{^{238}\text{U}} \right) \left( \frac{^{206}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} \right) \left( \frac{e^{\lambda^{235}t} - 1}{e^{\lambda^{238}t} - 1} \right) + \left( \frac{^{207}\text{Pb}}{^{204}\text{Pb}} \right)_0$$

Bucket of water  
A small hole (slow decay)

reaches 'secular equilibrium' B large hole fast

C no hole (stable)  $\frac{dC}{dt}$  is limited by rate from slowest decay



$^{238}\text{U}$   
↑ slower decay  
 $t_{1/2} \sim 4.5 \text{ Ga}$