

65. We can find the age  $t$  of the rock from the masses of  $^{238}\text{U}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ . The initial mass of  $^{238}\text{U}$  is

$$m_{\text{U}_0} = m_{\text{U}} + \frac{238}{206}m_{\text{Pb}} .$$

Therefore,  $m_{\text{U}} = m_{\text{U}_0}e^{-\lambda_{\text{U}}t} = (m_{\text{U}} + m_{238\text{Pb}}/206)e^{-(t \ln 2)/T_{1/2\text{U}}}$ . We solve for  $t$ :

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \frac{T_{1/2\text{U}}}{\ln 2} \ln \left( \frac{m_{\text{U}} + (238/206)m_{\text{Pb}}}{m_{\text{U}}} \right) \\ &= \frac{4.47 \times 10^9 \text{ y}}{\ln 2} \ln \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{238}{206} \right) \left( \frac{0.15 \text{ mg}}{0.86 \text{ mg}} \right) \right] \\ &= 1.18 \times 10^9 \text{ y} . \end{aligned}$$

For the  $\beta$  decay of  $^{40}\text{K}$ , the initial mass of  $^{40}\text{K}$  is

$$m_{\text{K}_0} = m_{\text{K}} + (40/40)m_{\text{Ar}} = m_{\text{K}} + m_{\text{Ar}} ,$$

so

$$m_{\text{K}} = m_{\text{K}_0}e^{-\lambda_{\text{K}}t} = (m_{\text{K}} + m_{\text{Ar}})e^{-\lambda_{\text{K}}t} .$$

We solve for  $m_{\text{K}}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} m_{\text{K}} &= \frac{m_{\text{Ar}}e^{-\lambda_{\text{K}}t}}{1 - e^{-\lambda_{\text{K}}t}} = \frac{m_{\text{Ar}}}{e^{\lambda_{\text{K}}t} - 1} \\ &= \frac{1.6 \text{ mg}}{e^{(\ln 2)(1.18 \times 10^9 \text{ y})/(1.25 \times 10^9 \text{ y})} - 1} = 1.7 \text{ mg} . \end{aligned}$$