

A Travelling Technology: Radiocarbon dating between nuclear physics and climate science

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The history of post-war climate science has been written with a strong focus on the role of global geopolitics and global climate models. In this talk, I will broaden this perspective with a smaller scale approach and a different technology. Drawing on the history of a specific radiocarbon dating laboratory, I show, on the one hand, how also local conditions influenced global climate science and, on the other hand, how the cross-disciplinary journey of this dating technology affected climate research and understanding. In doing so, I suggest to understand such “Travelling Technologies” as a means to study processes of interdisciplinisation –in climate science and beyond.

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