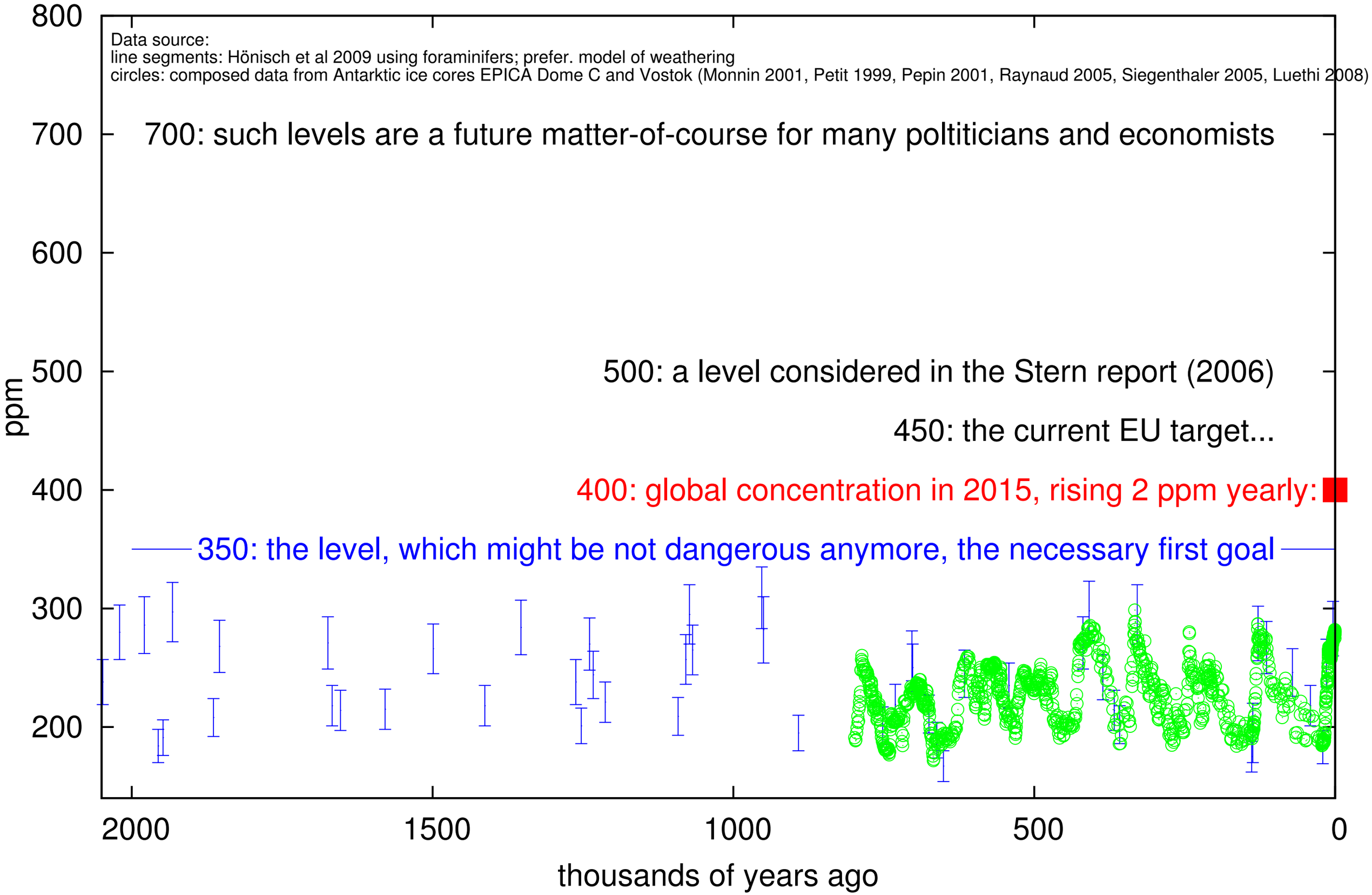CO_2 in the quaternary period, today and ...tomorrow