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Influence of pH on \triangle 17O using the conventional equilibration device and a comparision to the CoF3 method

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We have analysed precipitaion samples taken from Jungfraujoch for pH variations, using a pH sonde (WTW company) with a repeatibility of \pm .01 pH unit. The values range between 3.78 and 6.95 pH units; average of four measurements of each sample. Previously samples have been analysed for stable isotopes (d180, dD) and from d45, d46, Δ 170 has been calculated. Elsig and Leuenberger (2008) observed that the pH has a strong influence on the Δ 170 during the isotope equilibration between water and CO₂ (13C effect) if pH values are above 4 pH units. We rerun all samples, now buffered to pH 4. Those 13C independent values were compared to those obtained by a CoF3 method (Barkan et.al, 2007). The precision of the CoF3 method is superior over the equilibration method even under buffered condition.

References

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