## METHOD VALIDATION REPORT

## Secondary (Lab) Standard Validation for the Analysis of $\delta^2H$ in Water Samples Using the GasBench and IRMS

**Date: January 4, 2010** 

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## **SUMMARY**

International Standards (IAEA Reference Material) Primary Standard	SLAP2 – Standard Light Antarctic Precipitation 2 GISP – Greenland Ice Sheet Precipitation VSMOW2– Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water 2  Primary Standard  6 <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub> ‰					
Absolute Values	-					
	SLAF	22	-427.5			
	GISP		-189.5			
	VSMOW2			0.0		
Primary Standard Experimental Values	<u>Primary</u> <u>Standard</u>	δ-Hygnonygy and SI)			%Acc	<u>n</u>
and Statistics	SLAP2	-427.654	7.07	1.65	100.04	12
	GISP	-189.895	6.84	3.60	100.21	12
	VSMOW2	-1.645	5.10	310.0*	*	12
	* Value skewed due to zero being the target value.					
Water Lab (Secondary) Standards	<ol> <li>Vostok: Originally obtained as an ice core from Vostok Ice Core         Team (member G. Domack) which subsequently melted due to         freezer malfunction</li> <li>Bottle Distilled: Fisher, Optima LCMS Grade, Lot: 086933</li> <li>Well: D. Tewksbury (employee Hamilton College) home</li> <li>Deuterium Prepared Lab Standard (see preparation section)</li> </ol>					
Lab (Secondary)	Secondary Standar	$\underline{\mathbf{d}}  \underline{\mathbf{\delta}^2 \mathbf{H}_{\text{VSMOW/SLAB}}}$	<u>S</u>	. <u>D.</u> 9	6CV	<u>N</u>
Standard Experimentally	Vostok	-430.609	7.	.42	1.72	34
Determined $\delta^2 H$ Values and Statistics	Bottle Distilled	-44.704			3.15	30
	Well	-76.705	<b>-76.705</b> 5.84 7.61 31			31
	Prepared Lab Standard	+245.566	5.	.89	2.40	31
Sample Analysis Volume	200 μL					

## SIGNATURE PAGE

# Secondary (Lab) Standard Validation for the Analysis of $\delta^2 H$ in Water Samples Using the GasBench and IRMS

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

This report describes the qualification/validation process for Water  $\delta^2 H$  (or also referred to as D) Secondary (Lab) Standards using the automated  $H_2$  equilibration GasBench Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry technique. Various water samples were analyzed to be evaluated as possible Secondary (Lab) standards. Three international (primary) standards were included in the analyses, they are GISP, SLAP2 and VSMOW2. The goal of the analysis was to identify the laboratory standards which provided acceptable experimental precision and encompassed the  $\delta^2 H$  ranges expected for samples submitted for analysis. The Lab Standards identified in the Summary section of this report fulfilled these requirements.

#### 2. EXPERIMENTAL

#### 2.1. CHEMICALS AND MATERIALS

Four water samples were chosen for this secondary (Lab) standard determination validation, as well as the three international (or primary) standards. The four laboratory standard candidates were as follows:

- 1. Vostok
- 2. Bottle Distilled
- 3. Well
- 4. Prepared Deuterium Laboratory Standard (50 ppm D<sub>2</sub>O)

Note: The 50 ppm (v/v)  $D_2O$  laboratory standard was prepared as follows:

- ~ 100mL of Science Center RO water were first placed into a 1000 mL volumetric flask
- Using a pipette, exactly 50 μL of D<sub>2</sub>O ( Acros D<sub>2</sub>O 100.0 Atom% D, Lot A020127801) were then placed into the volumetric flask
- Science Center RO water was then added to the flask to the mark
- A stir bar was inserted and the solution mixed for ~ 1 day

The three international standards were as follows:

- 1. SLAP2
- 2. GISP
- 3. VSMOW2

Other than the prepared lab standard, all waters were used neat "as received".

A 2%  $H_2$  in Helium gas was used as the equilibration gas which allowed for  $^2H$  atom incorporation from the water sample into the  $H_2$  gas introduced to each sample's headspace. (Platinum catalyst "sticks" were inserted into each sample to facilitate this  $^2H$  incorporation.)

Other materials were as follows:

Capillary Column – Varian PN: CP7551, PLOT Fused Silica, CP-PoraPLOT Q, length - 27.5 meter (including 2.5 m particle trap), (0.32 mm I.D., 0.45 mm O.D., 10 mm film thickness) held at 70°C.

Exetainer Vials – 12 mL Borosilicate, obtained from LabConco with vial caps and disposable septa.

Valco Sample Loop in GasBench – 100 μL

GasBench Sample Block – set at 30°C.

Platinum Catalyst sticks, (Thermo P/N 010207 1091831) one per sample vial.

He Gas - Grade 5.0 (50 psi tank gauge, 13-14 psi GasBench gauge)

2% H<sub>2</sub>/Balance Helium – P/N 105-MIX5E220C (45 - 50 psi tank gauge, adjust to give ~ 125 mL/min flush fill rate, check at vent of flush fill needle during the flush fill procedure.)

 $H_2$  Reference Gas – Grade 5.0 (50 psi tank gauge, 40 - 50 psi GasBench gauge, adjust pressure at GasBench gauge to give ~ 6 - 7 volts m/z 2 signal, cup 1)

Pipettor – Finnpipette 40 – 200 μL range, S/N J57232 (Calibrated – 12/07)

Pipettor Tips – Eppendorf – "Yellow", capacity up to 200 μL (Fisher # 02-707-500)

#### 2.2. INSTRUMENTATION (IRMS, GASBENCH AND PAL)

The IRMS instrument is a Thermo Scientific Delta V Advantage along with a ThermoFinnigan GasBench III and CTC Analytics PAL autosampler system. (The GasBench unit is equipped with a self-contained continuous flow interface.)

IRMS Data Acquisition System: Isodat 2.5 Gas Isotope Ratio MS Software

Acquisition - Used for running the analysis (acquiring data).

Workspace – Used for analysis setup, methods and sequence development, and data review.

Instrument Control – Used to monitor and control various aspects of the instrument.

#### 2.3. ANALYSIS PROCEDURE, SAMPLE PREPARATION AND INSTRUMENT CONDITIONS

#### **Analysis Procedure**

Five analysis days (four Primary standard to Secondary standard evaluations and one Secondary to Primary standard evaluation) were performed during the course of the validation. The first four analysis days consisted of 50 samples, the final Secondary to Primary analysis consisted of 48 samples. The 50 samples used for the first analysis day had previously been analyzed for  $\delta^{18}$ O. It should be noted that a water sample subjected to  $\delta^{18}$ O analysis can subsequently be subjected to  $\delta^{2}$ H analysis. The reverse is not true, a  $\delta^{18}$ O analysis cannot be performed on a water sample previously subjected to  $\delta^{2}$ H analysis.

Ten peaks (consisting of ion current for m/z 2, and m/z 3) of decreasing signal are obtained for each sample (in addition to five reference pulses). The first peak is omitted (due to potential detector saturation) and the statistics (average, S.D., % accuracy, etc.) are generated on the  $\delta^2 H$  % values given by the Isodat software on the remaining nine peaks. The final  $\delta^2 H$  % values and associated statistical parameters given for each water sample were calculated two ways: using the average  $\delta^2 H$  % value of the nine peaks for each sample (intra) and using each  $\delta^2 H$  % value for every peak in each sample (inter). This latter method provided a much bigger population of experimental results (nine values per individual sample) than just using one value (average of nine values) per sample. Both statistical treatments of data yielded essentially identical results for each water sample given in the Summary.

#### **Sample Preparation**

The exetainer sample tubes were cleaned by washing in a soap bath and followed by multiple Science Center RO water rinses. Next, the vials were placed in a RO water bath to soak (as a final rinse) at least overnight. Each vial was then removed from the bath and given an acetone rinse. The vials were then placed into an oven to be baked out. The oven was set at  $\sim 150^{\circ}$ C, and the vials were left in at least overnight. After baking, the vials were wrapped in new, clean aluminum foil for storage.

The exetainer vials for the first analysis (samples which were previously subjected to  $\delta^{18}O$  analysis) were subjected to the above cleaning procedure prior to their being analyzed for  $\delta^{18}O$ . After the  $\delta^{18}O$  analysis the vial caps were removed and the used septa were replaced with new septa, a Platinum catalyst stick was placed in the vial and the vial cap (with new septa) was replaced.

The sample preparation was as follows:

- Into a clean, dry and labeled exetainer vial, 200 µL of water sample were placed using a pipette. (Sample blanks did not contain the water.)
- A Platinum catalyst stick was placed in the sample vial ensuring that the platinum was not submerged in the sample.
- A cap with a new septum was then placed on the exetainer tube to seal it.

- Vials were placed into the GasBench sample block (maintained at ~ 30°C) and the cover was secured.
- Each sample vial was then flush-filled with 2% H<sub>2</sub> in Helium gas before the analysis.
  - Attach the two flush-fill needles to the PAL autosampler (two sample vials will be flush filled (FF) at the same time).
  - o Turn the T-valve so it points away from the GasBench (towards the ConFlo for the mixed gas FF's, towards the GasBench is the He FF for carbonate analysis).
  - In Isodat Acquisition, verify instrument configuration is set for GasBench+PAL, click the mouse on the GasBench flush-fill button in the GasBench area, this will purge the 2% H<sub>2</sub> in Helium gas flush-fill line. Note: If open, always close Isodat Instrument Control before using Isodat Acquisition.
  - $\circ$  Allow the 2% H<sub>2</sub> in Helium gas line to purge for  $\sim$  15 minutes.
  - Use the *FlushFill\_H2He\_6min.seq* (see Figure 10) as a template (in Workspace), create a flush-fill sequence for the appropriate number of samples.
  - o Ensure the sequence contains the correct method, *H2He\_Vial\_Flush\_6min.met*.
  - Ensure the use of an appropriate AS Method, Internal No 1, (A200S-1) 6 injections of 61 seconds each (see Figure 5).
  - o Rename and save the sequence just created. Close the sequence.
  - In Acquisition, start the flush-fill sequence just created. Identify the folder for the data with the date and type of analysis. Note: To minimize potential computer issues, it is recommended to reset the computer before starting any extended analysis sequence.
  - Once started, verify the flush-fill flow rate by placing a flow meter onto the vent tube of the flush-fill needle (check this on both needles!), the flow rate should be ~ 125 mL/min.
- When the Helium flush-fill has been completed, turn the T-valve back 90° to point to the back wall and shut off the 2% H<sub>2</sub> gas in Helium at the cylinder.
- Remove both flush-fill needles from the PAL autosampler.
- The  ${}^{2}$ H incorporation/equilibration from the  $H_{2}O$  to the  $H_{2}$  in the vial headspace is finished within  $\sim 40$  minutes after the addition of the flush-fill gas mixture. The analysis process can typically commence as soon as the flush-fill sequence is completed.
- Attach the sampling needle to the left position on the PAL autosampler syringe holder, leave the right position empty.
- Open Instrument Control software, check and record the MS pressure.
- Open the GasBench inlet valve on the IRMS.
- Wait a few minutes for the pressure to stabilize, and record the pressure.
- Turn on the filament.
- Monitor m/z 18 ( $H_2O$ ) on cup 3. (The m/z 18 signal should drop below 1000 mV within 1-2 hours of turning on the filament.)
- Open the H<sub>2</sub> reference gas cylinder.
- **DANGER!!!:** Due to the explosive nature of  $H_2$  gas, the  $H_2$  cylinder is only open when a  $\delta^2 H$  analysis is being performed. Shut off the  $H_2$  gas at the cylinder after the  $\delta^2 H$  analysis is complete.

- Determine the optimal Electron Energy setting. This is done to reduce the contribution to peak distortion of doubly charged He ions (He<sup>2+</sup>) created in the ion source. This needs to be performed before the first  $\delta^2$ H analysis sequence, and does not need to be repeated unless a different analysis (i.e.  $\delta^{18}$ O) has been performed.
  - Perform a peak center with the H<sub>2</sub> reference On.
  - Switch the H<sub>2</sub> reference Off.
  - Record the signal intensity of m/z 2 versus the electron energy.
  - Adjust the electron energy up or down and repeat the previous three steps at multiple electron energy settings.
  - $\circ$  The preferred electron energy setting is just below the appearance of the He<sup>2+</sup> signal, where the sensitivity for H<sub>2</sub> is optimal.
  - When the optimal electron energy has been determined, set the value in the Focus Delta administrative panel, and then click *Pass to Gasconfiguration*. Note: If this is not done, the electron energy will revert back to its previous value.
- Adjust the Hydrogen Calibration, (this needs to be performed before the first  $\delta^2 H$  analysis sequence, it does not need to be repeated unless a different analysis (i.e.  $\delta^{18}O$ ) has been performed).
  - Switch the H<sub>2</sub> reference gas on.
  - Set the magnet to approximately 1000 magnet steps (right clicking on the magnet steps value allows the magnet steps to be edited).
  - Select *Pass to Gasconfiguration* in the Focus Delta administrative panel.
  - Force the IRMS to jump to m/z 2 by changing the Gas Configuration to CO<sub>2</sub> and back to H<sub>2</sub>.
  - Adjust the magnet steps value to hit the peak center (maximize signal), then repeat the last two steps. The setting is precise enough if the jump finds 50% of peak intensity. The IRMS will now correctly jump to m/z 2 and m/z 3 (cups 1 and 5).
- With the m/z 18 signal below ~1000 mV, perform an autofocus for H<sub>2</sub> using Autofocus\_H2\_(Date) file in Instrument Control. Turn on the H<sub>2</sub> reference gas.
- Typically use the following parameters in the Autofocus dialog box (see Figure 2):

Measuring Channel: 2

o Integration Time: 0.100(s)

Minimum Step Width: 1

o Maximum Step Width: 10

o Minimum delay time(ms): 50

o Maximum delay time(ms): 500

o Maximum iterations: 3

o Simulated Poti Turns: 2

Accelerating Voltage: unchecked

o Electron Energy: unchecked

o Emission: unchecked

o Trap: unchecked

O X-Deflection: Checked

o Focus Voltage: Checked

Extraction Voltage: unchecked

- Y-Defl Voltage: Checked
   Focus Symmetry: Checked
   Extraction Symmetry: Checked
   Y-Defl Symmetry: Checked
- Repeat the autofocus until there is no further H<sub>2</sub> signal improvement.
- Select *Pass to Gasconfiguration* in the Focus Delta administrative panel.
- Perform on-off (H2\_On-Off.met) and linearity (H2\_On-Off.met) system suitability using  $H_2$  as the reference gas.  $\delta^2 H$  On-Off: std.dev. < 0.5‰,  $\delta^2 H$  Linearity: regression slope std. dev. < 1.0‰ with increasing  $H_2$  pressure (see Figures 12 and 13).
- Calculate the H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>Factor using the latest H<sub>2</sub> linearity file.
- Click on the H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> button then on "Top CF Document" and choose a linearity file for the calculation of the H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Factor. Click on "Determine". The H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Factor will be calculated by Isodat. A low and stable H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Factor is needed for good δ<sup>2</sup>H determination. An H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> factor of 10 or less is desirable, but 12 or less is acceptable (see Figure 3).
- If the H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Factor is not acceptable, click cancel and perform another linearity test and repeat the H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Factor determination until an acceptable factor is obtained.
- Confirm the calculated H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> value by clicking Ok. This H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> factor will be used for further data acquisitions (see Figure 4).
- Adjust the  $H_2$  reference gas to give a reference peak (m/z 2, cup 1) signal of between 6000 and 8000 mV (m/z 3 ~ 2000 mV). Close Instrument Control, open Isodat Acquisition.
- Create, identify, and save a new analysis sequence using the file *H2\_50\_Samples.seq* as a template (see Figure 11). The limiting factor for analyzing 50 samples per sequence is due to the current supply of 50 Platinum catalyst sticks on-hand. An analysis sequence can be performed on up to 96 samples (limited by the capacity of the sample tray).
- Use  $H2\_100uL\_Loop\_Sample.met$  as the analysis method (see Figures 6 9).
- Ensure the correct autosampler method is entered in the sequence, **Internal No. 9** (A200S-9) 11 injections of 59 seconds each (See Figure 5).
- Verify that Isodat Acquisition, and Isodat Workspace programs are open (and Instrument Control is closed). Note: To minimize potential computer issues, it is recommended to reset the computer before starting any extended analysis sequence.
- In Acquisition, check and record mass spectrometer pressure, the CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, m/z 18 (cup 3), m/z 32 (cup 3), and m/z 40 (cup 3) intensities.
- Verify system readiness for analysis, e.g., Helium tank pressures, capillary column temperature, T-valve position, alignment of syringes, vial location and identification, etc.
- Verify that the correct sequence has been selected and double check the information.
- When all is correct, click "Start".
- Identify the folder in which the data files are to be stored (typically use H2 followed by an underscore and then the analysis date).
- Next choose how to identify the data files.
- Un-check the "Auto Enum" button.
- Start the analysis by checking the "OK".

- Completed files can be reviewed in Isodat Workspace...\Results\filename. (see Figures 14 16, respectively, for example chromatograms of a blank, a Primary standard, and a Lab standard).
- When the analysis is complete, review the files in Workspace to verify all samples were properly acquired and analyzed. (It is useful to record any anomalous findings or notes on the analysis worksheet.)
- Turn off the H<sub>2</sub> gas at the gas cylinder.
- Print the data files in Workspace.
- Re-process the data files using the export file *GB\_H2\_Export.wke*, this will put the data into EXCEL format (see Figure 17).
- Transfer the re-processed data via an appropriate technique to another computer for statistical analysis.
  - o First copy the data into a new worksheet.
  - O Clean up the spreadsheet, set significant figures, alignments, headings, etc, to make the spreadsheet easier to handle and interpret.
  - o Sort on "Peak No." to separate out the reference peaks.
  - O Cut and paste the reference peak data into a new worksheet.
  - o After the reference peaks have been removed, sort on the sample ID.
  - o Create a calibration curve for  $\delta^2 H$  ‰ using the primary standards, plot the known values vs. the IRMS determined values.
  - $\circ$  Plot the trend line, the equation of the trend line is the regression formula used to determine the corrected  $\delta^2 H$  % values.
  - $\circ$  Perform statistical analysis (mean, standard deviation, accuracy, and %CV) on all average  $\delta^2 H$  ‰ values determined for each sample. This is the intra-statistical analysis.
  - Next, perform the same statistical analysis on all the individual peaks of each sample. This is the inter-statistical analysis.

#### **Instrument Conditions**

#### GasBench

- Capillary Column Temperature 70°C
- Capillary Column Flow Rate 1.0 ml/min 1.5 ml/min
- Sample Block Temperature 30°C
- Flush-Fill Flow rate ~125mL/min
- He Pressure (at Tank) 50 psi
- He pressure (at GasBench) -13 14 psi (flow rate  $\sim 0.8$  ml/min)
- 2% H<sub>2</sub> in He pressure (at Tank) ~ 45 psi (adjust to give ~ 125ml/min FF rate)
- H<sub>2</sub> pressure at Tank ~35 psi
  - at GasBench adjust to 6 8 volts m/z 2 signal in cup 1

#### **PAL**

- Syringe Configuration 10 μL
- FlushFill method Internal 1
- Analysis method Internal 9

#### **IRMS**

- Electron Energy ~ 96 eV
- Tune File e.g.: autofocus\_H2\_(Date of last tune)
- High Vacuum (MS Valve open) ~ 5.5e-7 mB
- High Vacuum (MS Valve closed) ~9.5e-8 mB
- Instrument configuration GasBench+PAL
- H<sub>2</sub> reference peak intensity (m/z 2 cup 1) ~ 6000 mV
- Method FlushFill H2He\_Vial\_Flush\_6min.met
   Analysis H2\_100uL\_Loop\_Sample.met

#### 2.4. WATER STANDARD VALIDATION DATA

The Excel files used for this validation can be found on the Hamilton College network, the path is Campus on ESS

P:\Instrumentation\Geosciences\Data\Thermo\_IRMS\GasBench\Water\Deuterium\Validation(file names). The file names and contents are listed below:

- 1. H2\_082509\_After\_18O.xlsx Validation day 1 results, after  $\delta^{18}$ O analysis
- 2. H2\_082809\_Val\_1.xlsx Validation day 2 results
- 3. H2\_083109\_Val\_2.xlsx Validation day 3 results
- 4. H2\_090209\_Val\_3.xlsx Validation day 4 results
- 5. H2\_090909\_Sec\_Primary.xlsx Day 5, experimentally determined values for Secondary standards used to determine Primary standard values
- 6. H2\_Validation\_Summary.xlsx Accuracy and precision analysis for all analyses performed during validation

Table 1: Summary Statistics for Day 1 Validation - Primary Standards

File Name: H2\_082509\_After\_18O.xlxs

Primary Standards Statistics	
SLAP2	$\delta^2 H$ ‰
average	-432.503
Std. Deviation	4.805
%CV	1.11
%Acc	101.17
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-427.5
VSMOW2	δ <sup>2</sup> H ‰
average	-4.762
Std. Deviation	3.733
%CV	78.39*
%Acc	*
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	0.00
GISP	$\delta^2 H \%$
Average	-191.705
Std. Deviation	6.566
%CV	3.43
%Acc	101.16
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-189.5

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

<sup>\*</sup> Value skewed due to zero being the target value

Table 2: Summary Statistics for Day 1 Validation – Secondary Standards

File Name: H2\_082509\_After\_18O.xlxs

Secondary Standards Statistics	
Well	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	-78.430
Std. Deviation	4.897
%CV	6.24
n	7
Prepared Lab Standard	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	+245.975
Std. Deviation	4.831
%CV	1.96
n	7
Bottled Distilled	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	-47.222
Std. Deviation	4.582
%CV	9.70
n	6
<u>Vostok</u>	$\delta^2 \mathbf{H} \%$
average	-434.889
Std. Deviation	5.835
%CV	1.34
n	7

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

Table 3: Summary Statistics for Day 2 Validation - Primary Standards

File Name: H2\_082809\_Val\_1.xlxs

Primary Standards Statistics	
SLAP2	$\delta^2 H \%$
Average	-427.897
Std. Deviation	4.443
%CV	1.04
%Acc	100.09
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-427.5
VSMOW2	$\delta^2 H \%$
Average	-0.745
Std. Deviation	3.714
%CV	498.52*
%Acc	*
n	3
$\frac{Known}{\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}}$	0.00
GISP	$\delta^2$ H ‰
Average	-191.843
Std. Deviation	4.804
%CV	2.50
%Acc	101.24
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-189.5

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

<sup>\*</sup> Value skewed due to zero being the target value

Table 4: Summary Statistics for Day 2 Validation - Secondary Standards

File Name: H2\_082809\_Val\_1.xlxs

Secondary Standards Statistics	
·	
Well	$\delta^2$ H ‰
	22.14
Average	-80.117
Std. Deviation	4.079
%CV	5.09
n	8
D II I G	22 <b>77</b> a/
Prepared Lab Standard	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	+244.474
Std. Deviation	4.773
%CV	1.95
n	8
п	0
	22-24
Bottled Distilled	$\delta^2$ H ‰
Average	-46.925
Std. Deviation	3.796
%CV	8.09
n	8
Vostok	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	-435.027
Std. Deviation	4.372
%CV	1.00
n	9

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

Table 5: Summary Statistics for Day 3 Validation - Primary Standards

File Name: H2\_083109\_Val\_2.xlxs

Primary Standards Statistics	
SLAP2	$\delta^2 H$ ‰
average	-423.879
Std. Deviation	12.142
%CV	2.86
%Acc	99.15
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-427.5
VSMOW2	$\delta^2 H$ ‰
average	0.480
Std. Deviation	8.874
%CV	1848.75*
%Acc	*
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	0.00
GISP	δ <sup>2</sup> H ‰
average	-187.129
Std. Deviation	9.435
%CV	5.04
%Acc	98.75
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-189.5

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

<sup>\*</sup> Value skewed due to zero being the target value

Table 6: Summary Statistics for Day 3 Validation - Secondary Standards

File Name: H2\_083109\_Val\_2.xlxs

Secondary Standards Statistics	
Well	$\delta^2 H \%$
Average	-73.403
Std. Deviation	9.229
%CV	12.57
n	8
Prepared Lab Standard	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	+245.069
Std. Deviation	8.880
%CV	3.62
n	8
Bottled Distilled	$\delta^2$ H ‰
Average	-41.077
Std. Deviation	9.225
%CV	22.46
n	8
Vostok	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	-425.854
Std. Deviation	11.810
%CV	2.77
n	9

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

Table 7: Summary Statistics for Day 4 Validation - Primary Standards

File Name: H2\_090209\_Val\_3.xlxs

Primary Standards Statistics	
SLAP2	$\delta^2$ H ‰
Average	-426.339
Std. Deviation	6.900
%CV	1.62
%Acc	99.73
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-427.5
VSMOW2	δ <sup>2</sup> Η ‰
Average	-1.554
Std. Deviation	4.093
%CV	263.34*
%Acc	*
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	0.00
GISP	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	-188.905
Std. Deviation	6.562
%CV	3.47
%Acc	99.69
n	3
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	-189.5

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

<sup>\*</sup> Value skewed due to zero being the target value

Table 8: Summary Statistics for Day 4 Validation - Secondary Standards

File Name: H2\_090209\_Val\_3.xlxs

Secondary Standards Statistics	
Well	$\delta^2 H \%$
Average	-74.871
Std. Deviation	5.160
%CV	6.89
n	8
Prepared Lab Standard	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	+246.748
Std. Deviation	5.077
%CV	2.06
n	8
Bottled Distilled	$\delta^2 H \%$
Average	-43.591
Std. Deviation	5.906
%CV	13.55
n	8
Vostok	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	-426.665
Std. Deviation	7.645
%CV	1.79
n	9

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

Table 9: Summary Statistics for Day 5 (Secondary-to-Primary) Primary Standards

File Name: H2\_090909\_Sec\_Primary.xlxs

Primary Standards Statistics	
SLAP2	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	-430.999
Std. Deviation	2.971
%CV	0.69
%Acc	100.82
n	6
Known	-427.5
$\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}$	
VSMOW2	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	-3.399
Std. Deviation	3.416
%CV	100.50*
%Acc	*
n	6
Known δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	0.00
GISP	$\delta^2$ H ‰
average	-190.771
Std. Deviation	2.641
%CV	1.38
%Acc	100.67
n	6
Known	-189.5
δ <sup>2</sup> H <sub>VSMOW/SLAP</sub>	

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

<sup>\*</sup> Value skewed due to zero being the target value

Table 10: Summary Statistics for Day 5 (Secondary-to-Primary) Secondary Standards

File Name: H2\_090909\_Sec\_Primary.xlxs

Secondary Standards Statistics	
Well	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	-79.509
Std. Deviation	2.682
%CV	3.37
%Acc	103.66
n	5
Experimentally Determined $\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}$	-76.705
Prepared Lab Standard	$\delta^2 H \%$
average	+244.141
Std. Deviation	2.949
%CV	1.21
%Acc	99.42
n	5
Experimentally Determined $\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}$	+245.566
Bottled Distilled	$\delta^2$ H ‰
Average	-46.467
Std. Deviation	2.698
%CV	5.81
%Acc	103.94
n	6
Experimentally Determined $\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}$	-44.704
Vostok	$\delta^2 \mathbf{H} \%$
Average	-434.992
Std. Deviation	2.829
%CV	0.65
%Acc	101.02
n	5
Experimentally Determined $\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}$	-430.609

Note: %CV = Coefficient of Variation

Regression Line Equations used to correct  $\delta^2$ H‰ Instrument Values

Analysis Date	Validation Day	Regression Line	$\mathbb{R}^2$
08/25/2009	Day 1	y = 3.7948x + 2816.1	0.9985
08/28/2009	Day 2	y = 3.7631x + 2801.5	0.9998
08/31/2009	Day 3	y = 3.8216x + 2807.2	0.9943
09/02/2009	Day 4	y = 3.7656x + 2794.2	0.9969
09/09/2009	Day 5	y = 3.8092x + 2819.8	1.0000

#### 3. COMMENTS

**Table 11:** 

Three standards, in duplicate (one at the beginning of the analysis and one at the end) were used to generate the regression line.

The Primary Standards that were used in the regression line generation were not used in the calculations of the experimentally determined  $\delta^2 H$  ‰ read-back values or the statistics generated for them. Only the additional Primary Standards (n=3) analyzed in each run were used for this purpose.

An analysis of the  $\delta^2 H$  % value determined for each sample was plotted versus acquisition time. It was determined that there was no temporal bias and as such no drift corrections of determined  $\delta^2 H$  % values were made.

 $\delta^2$ H ‰ values given in the above Tables originate from the "intra" values determined in the Excel spreadsheets since the "intra" and "inter" values were essentially identical.

Day 5 Validation (Secondary to Primary Standard experiment) was performed only to evaluate the integrity of the Lab (Secondary) Standards for regression line generation and subsequent sample read-backs. This data was not used in any statistical calculations. (Vostok, Well water, and the prepared Laboratory Standard sample were used to generate the regression line.)

% Accuracy = Experimental Value/Known (Established) Value X 100

#### 4. DATA RETRIEVAL

The raw data files are stored on the Thermo IRMS instrument computer in the GeoSciences laboratory in the following location:

C:\Thermo\Isodat NT\Global\User\Gas Bench\Results\H2\_Analysis Folder\

H2 082509\filename.dxf

H2\_082809\filename.dxf

H2\_083109\filename.dxf

H2\_090209\filename.dxf

H2\_090909\_Sec\_to\_Primary\filename.dxf

The Excel Worksheets are stored on the Hamilton College network in the following location:

 $\label{lem:campus} Campus on ``ESS"(P:)\Instrumentation\Geosciences\Data\Thermo\_IRMS\GasBench\Water\Deuterium\Validation\filename.xlsx, and Campus on ``ESS"(P:) \Instrumentation\Geosciences\Data\Thermo\_IRMS\GasBench\Water\Deuterium\Analysis\Worksheets\filename.xlsx.$ 

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS

This analysis identified water samples which could be used for Lab (Secondary) Standards during unknown  $\delta^2 H$  ‰ investigations. This validation also provided  $\delta^2 H$  ‰ values for these Lab Standards (to be used for regression line generation) along with statistical evaluations of those values. The following is a summary of the results:

**Table 12: Secondary Standard Statistics Summary (Four Analysis Days)** 

Water Sample	$\delta^2 H_{VSMOW/SLAP}$ %	Std. Dev.	%CV	n
Vostok	-430.609	7.42	1.72	34
Bottled Distilled	-44.704	5.88	13.15	30
Well	-76.705	5.84	7.61	31
Prepared Lab Standard	+245.566	5.89	2.40	31

The experimentally determined values and the statistics for the Primary Standards are given below to assess method accuracy and variability across the 4 days of validation:

**Table 13: Primary Standard Statistics Summary (Four Analysis Days)** 

Primary Standard	$\delta^2 H_{VSMOW}$ %	Std. Dev.	%CV	% Acc	n
SLAP2	-427.654	7.07	1.65	100.04	12
GISP	-189.895	6.84	3.60	100.21	12
VSMOW2	-1.645	5.10	310.0*	*	12

<sup>\*</sup> Value skewed due to zero being the target value

#### 6. REFERENCES

Thermo Electron Delta V Advantage Operating Manual Finnigan GasBench II Operating Manual

#### 7. FIGURES

Figure 1:  $\delta^2 H$  Experimentally Determined Values, Sorted by  $\delta^2 H$  (average of four runs)

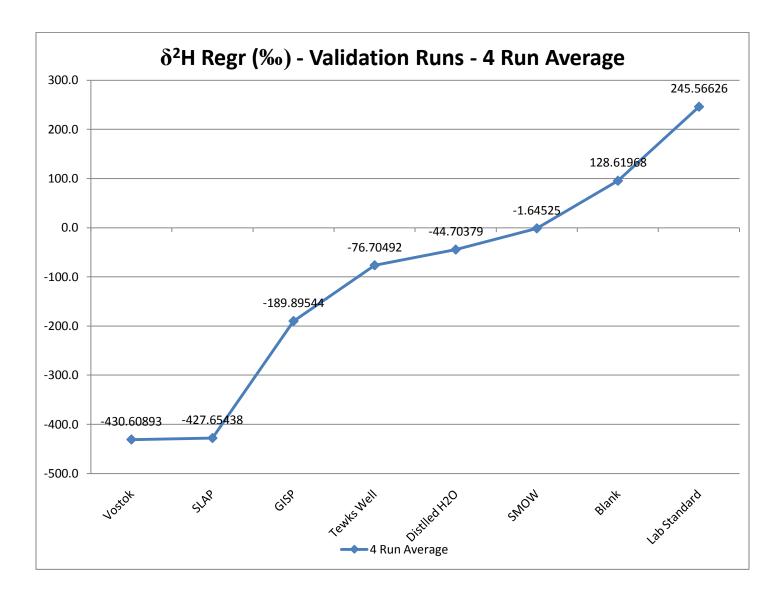
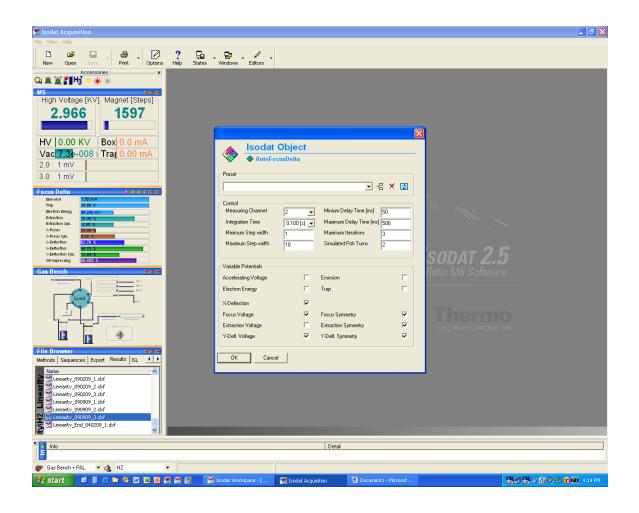


Figure 2: H<sub>2</sub> Autofocus Settings



? Relp States Windows Editors

Figure 3: H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> Factor Determination Screen

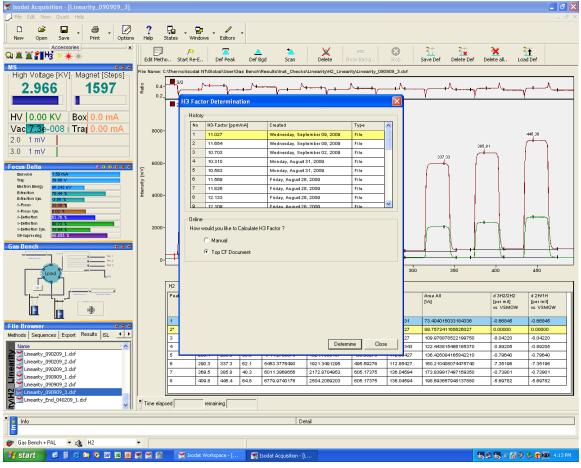


Figure 4:  $H_3^+$  Factor Save Screen

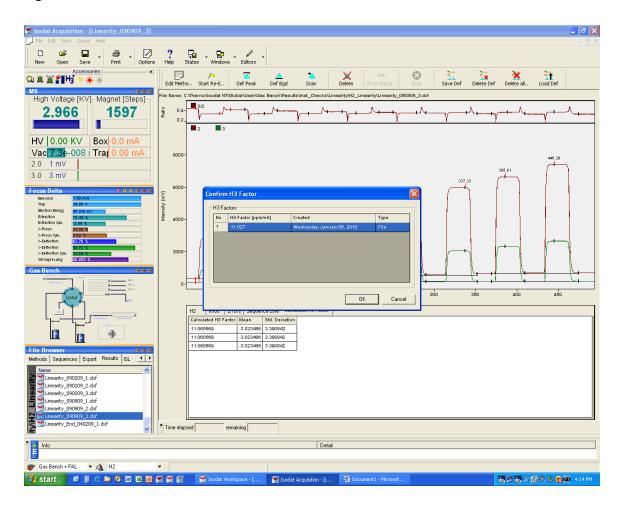


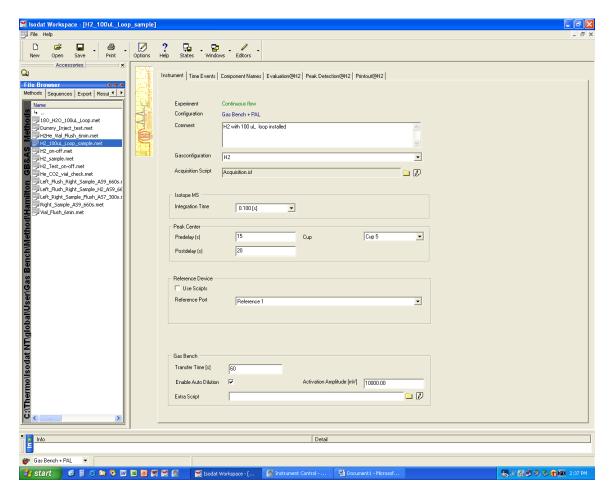
Figure 5: PAL Autosampler Setup

PAL Autosampler Methods for  $\delta^2 H$  Analysis and  $\delta^2 H$  FlushFill

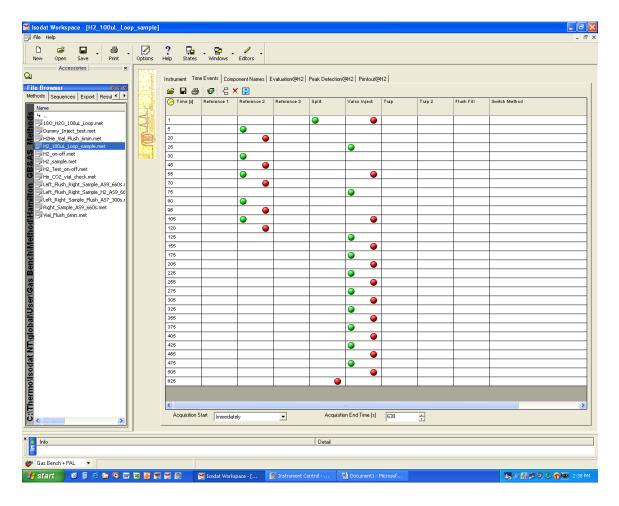
Internal No. 1 (A200S-1) (FlushFill)		
Cycle	GC-Inj	
Syringe	10 μL	
Sample Volume	10.0 μL	
Air Volume	0 μL	
Pre Cln Slv1	0	
Pre Cln Slv2	0	
Pre Cln Spl	0	
Fill Volume	0 nL	
Fill Speed	$5.0 \mu L/s$	
Fill Strokes	6	
Pullup Del	61	
Inject to	Flush	
Inject Speed	$50 \ \mu L / s$	
Pre Inj Del	0 ms	
Pst Inj Del	0 ms	
Pst Cln Slv1	0	
Pst Cln Slv2	0	

Internal No. 9 (A200S-9) (Analysis)		
Cycle	GC-Inj	
Syringe	10 μL	
Sample Volume	10.0 μL	
Air Volume	0 μL	
Pre Cln Slv1	0	
Pre Cln Slv2	0	
Pre Cln Spl	0	
Fill Volume	0 nL	
Fill Speed	$5.0 \mu L/s$	
Fill Strokes	11	
Pullup Del	59 s	
Inject to	Flush	
Inject Speed	50 μL/s	
Pre Inj Del	0 ms	
Pst Inj Del	0 ms	
Pst Cln Slv1	0	
Pst Cln Slv2	0	

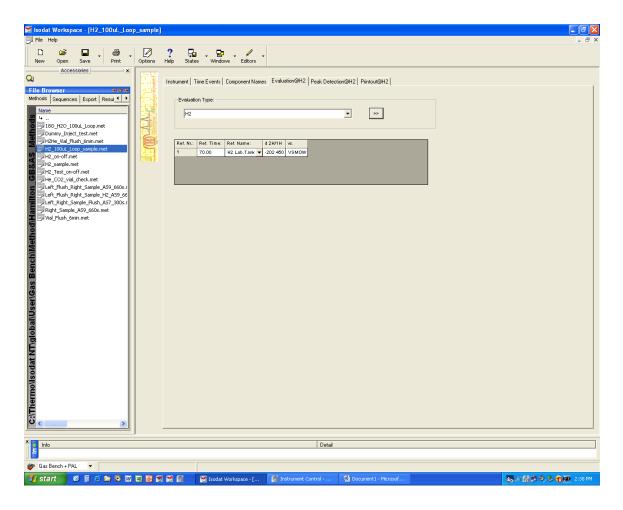
**Figure 6**:  $\delta^2$ H Method File – Instrument Screen



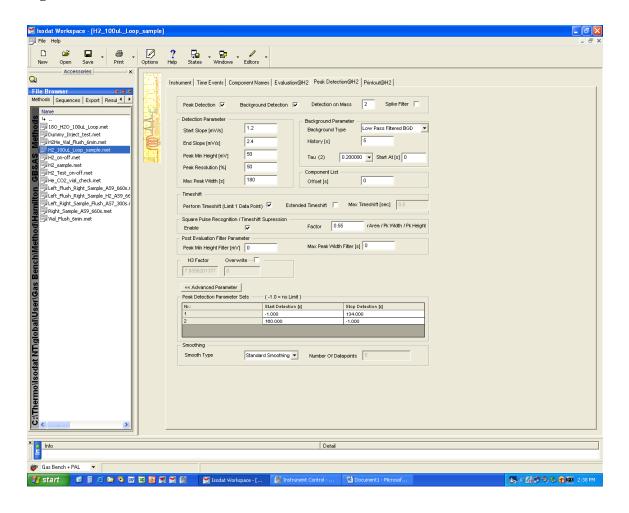
**Figure 7:**  $\delta^2$ H Method File – Time Events Screen



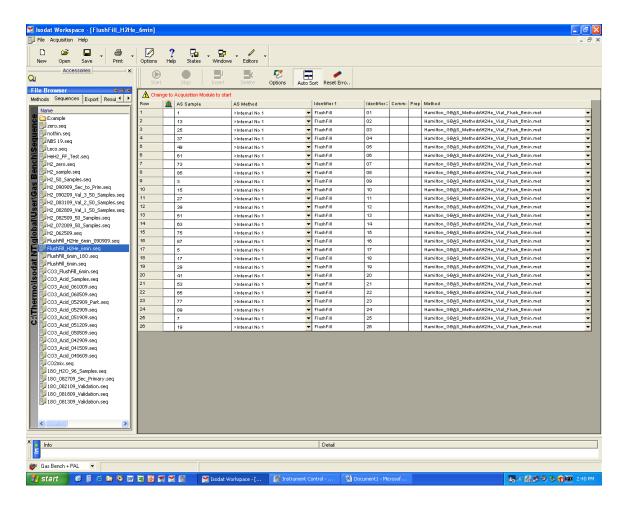
**Figure 8:**  $\delta^2$ H Method File – Evaluation@H2 Screen



**Figure 9:**  $\delta^2$ H Method File – Peak Detection@H2 Screen



**Figure 10:**  $\delta^2$ H Flush Fill Sequence File Example



**Figure 11:**  $\delta^2$ H Analysis Sequence File Example

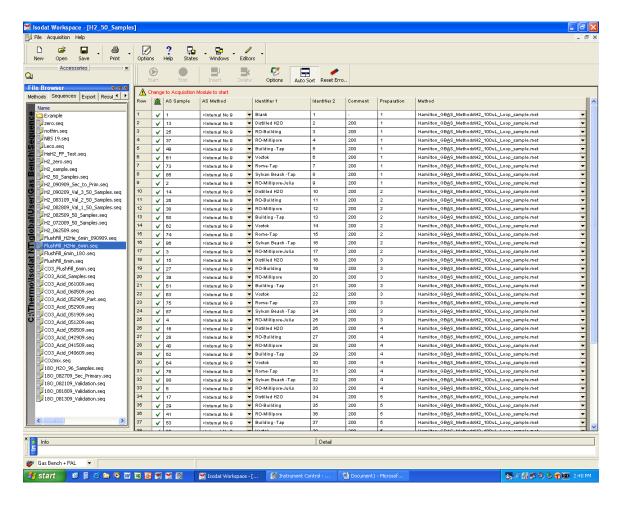


Figure 12:  $\delta^2 H$  On-Off Check (Using H<sub>2</sub>)

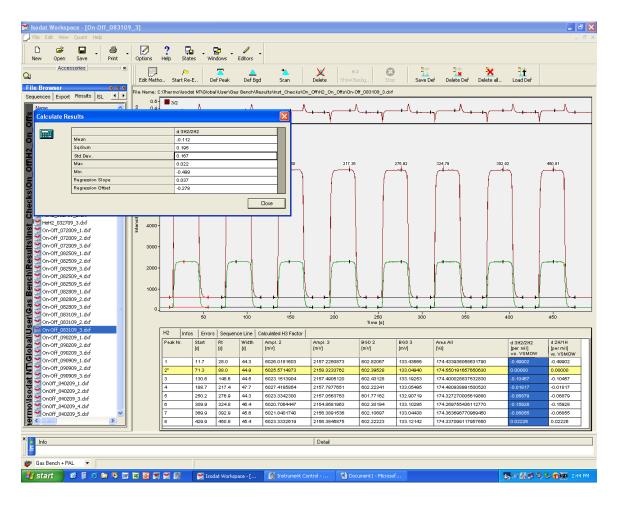
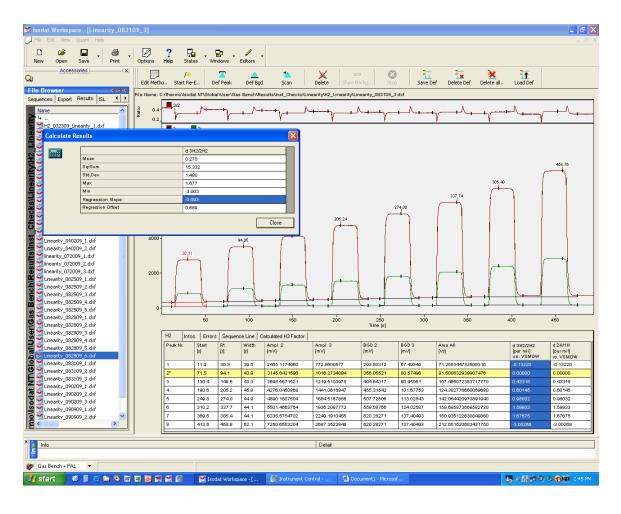
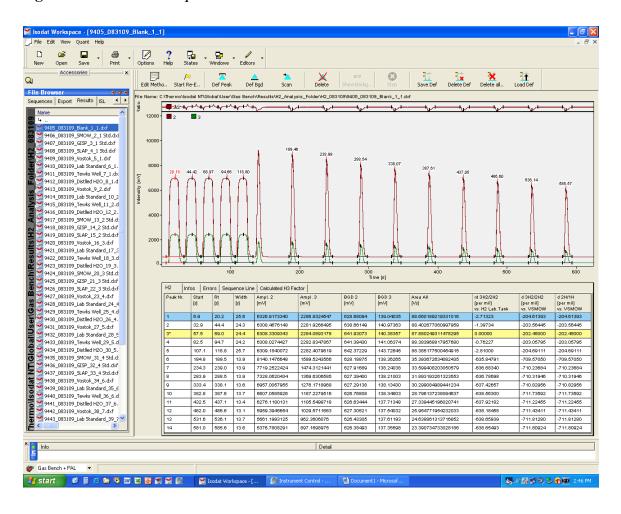


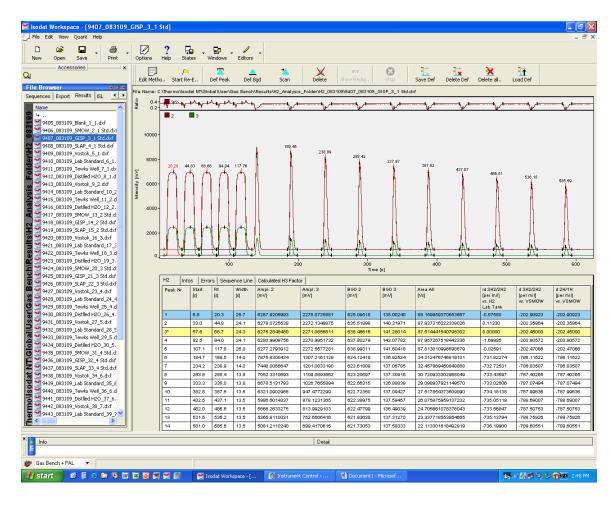
Figure 13:  $\delta^2$ H Linearity Check (Using H<sub>2</sub>)



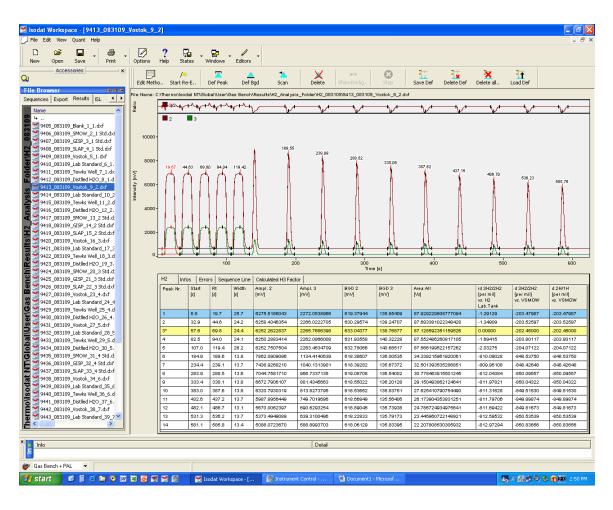
**Figure 14:**  $\delta^2$ H Data Acquisition File – Blank



**Figure 15:**  $\delta^2$ H Data Acquisition File – Primary Standard (GISP)



**Figure 16:**  $\delta^2$ H Data Acquisition File – Sample (Vostok)



**Figure 17:**  $\delta^2$ H Data Export File – GB\_H2\_Export

