

Atmospheric Water Isotopic Observations across National Ecological Observatory Network



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Introduction

Stable isotopes provide robust information on the structure, function, and processes of ecological systems, including hydrologic cycling. To provide publicly available continental-scale data, H₂O isotopic observations ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD) in atmosphere, precipitation, lake and stream have been incorporated as key data products in the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON). This poster focuses on the atmospheric water vapor component at NEON's terrestrial sites nation-wide. These measurements are made along a vertical tower profile at all core sites plus Barrow, AK relocatable site (Figure 1).

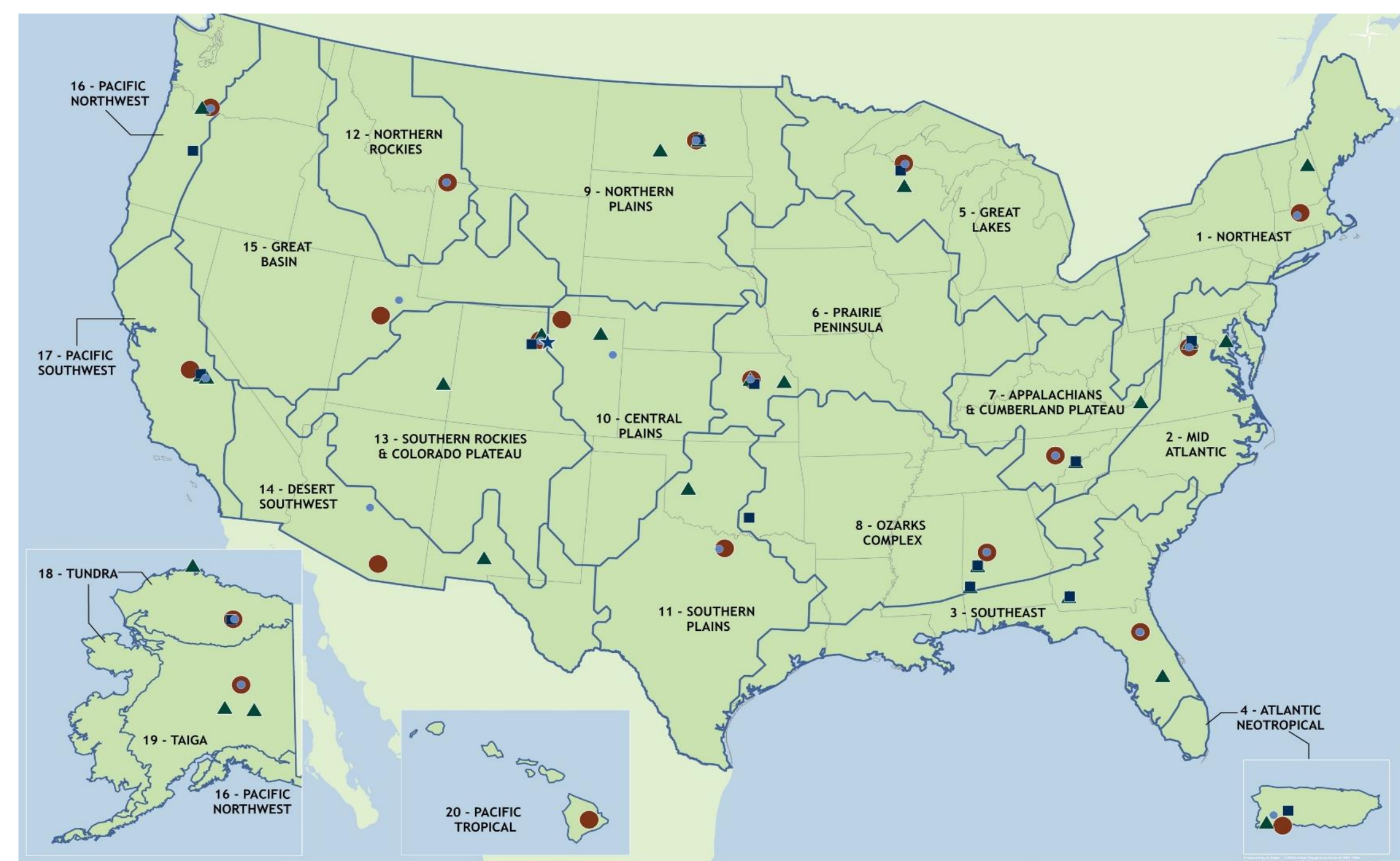


Figure 1. Map showing NEON terrestrial Core sites and Relocatable sites and aquatic sites.

Vertical Profile Measurement System

Instrumentation:

- Picarro L2130-i Analyzer with autosampler and vaporizer for periodic field validation

Sampling location:

- Sampling inlets located at multiple tower heights, which vary from 4 to 8 levels depending on ecosystem structure (see Figure 2 design scheme)
- vertical profile air sampling from the ground level through the ecosystem canopy and above the canopy to the well-mixed layer

Sampling frequency and duration:

- Continuous at ~1 Hz
- 10 minutes per measurement level

Field validation:

- Validated by $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD reference standards traceable to IAEA
- Three-point validation
- Reoccurs every 23 hours.

System Schematic

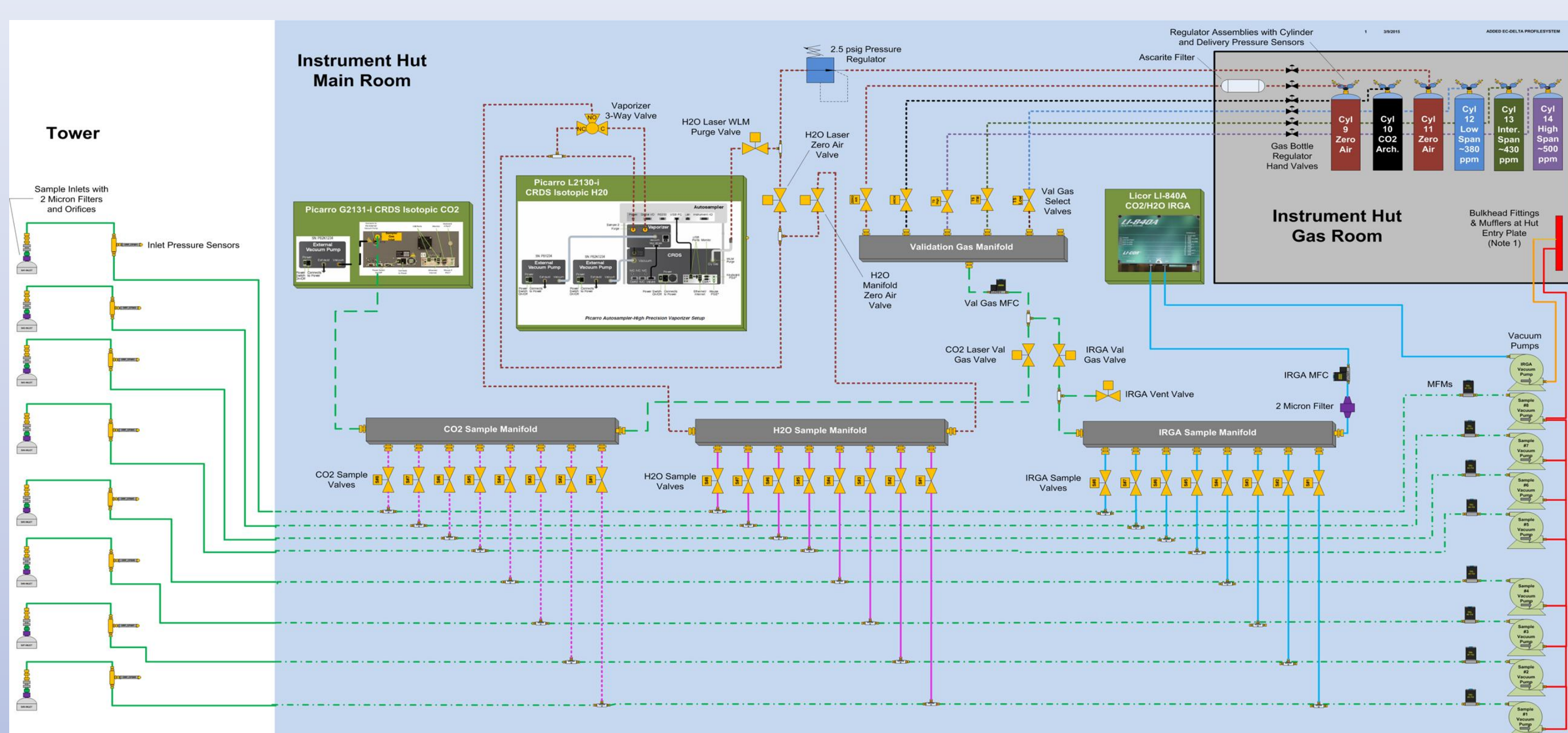


Figure 2. Design scheme of the vertical profile system including CO₂ concentration, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, water vapor concentration, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, and δD measurements in the atmosphere. Note that figures not drawn to scale.

Future enhancements

- Low humidity dependence (LHD) correction**
 - L2130-I LHD issue bias the isotopic readings at the low humidity conditions
 - LHD curve will be characterized annually *in situ* at each site. See Figure 7 for examples
 - LHD data will be available by request and for NEON use in the future
- Memory correction for each injection during validation**
- Sensor drift correction using validation data**

Data products, status and download

Data products and download:

- 9-min and 30-min averaged $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD
- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD can be downloaded directly from NEON data portal <http://data.neonscience.org> as part of the bundled eddy covariance HDF5 data. Explore data by location or by theme or by search.
- Alternatively, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD can be downloaded using the `zipsByProduct` function in the `neonUtilities` R package. See Tutorial <https://www.neonscience.org/neonDataStackR>

Status of data availability:

- <https://data.neonscience.org/view-data-availability>
- Check data availability by site or by time
- See Figure 3 for an example

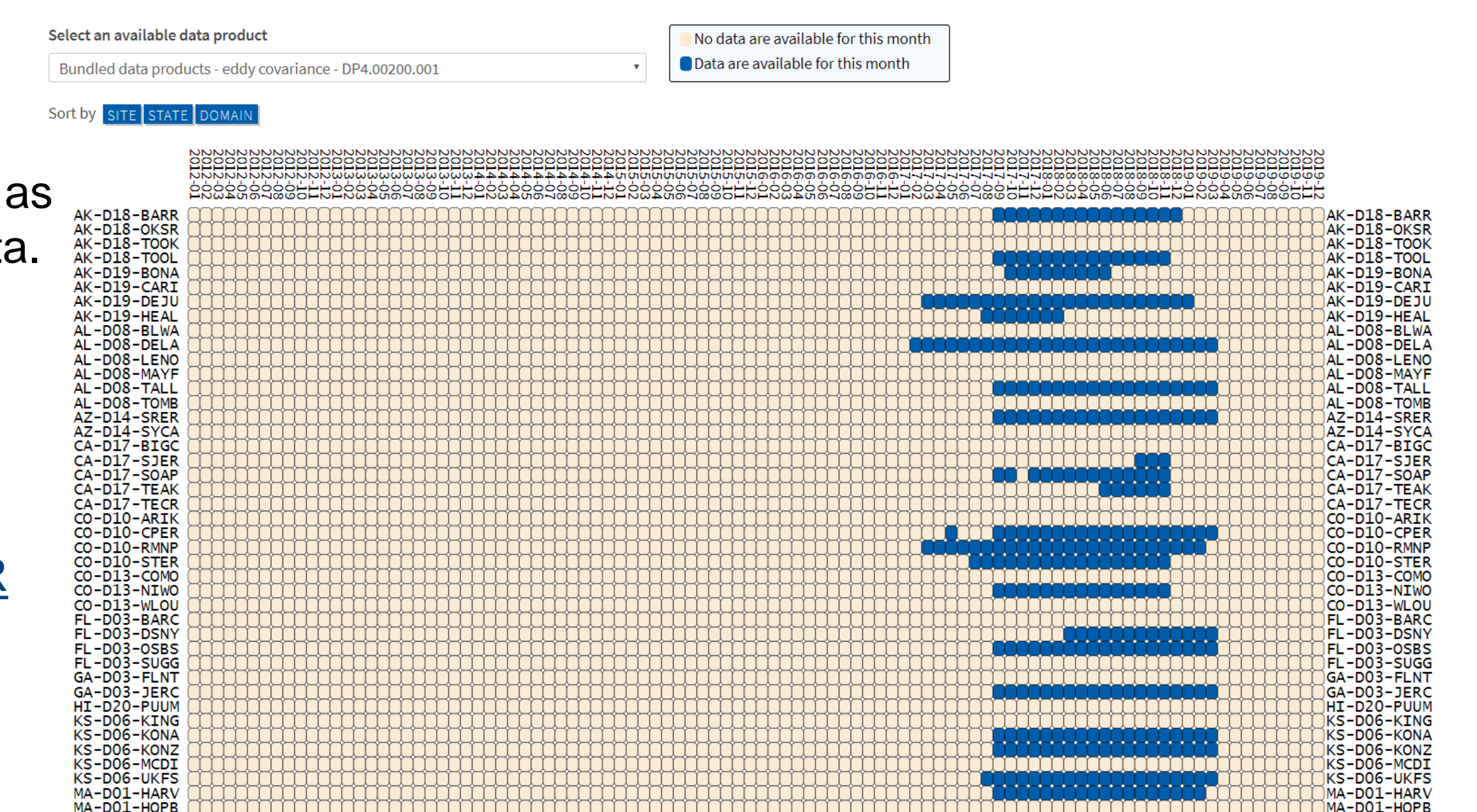
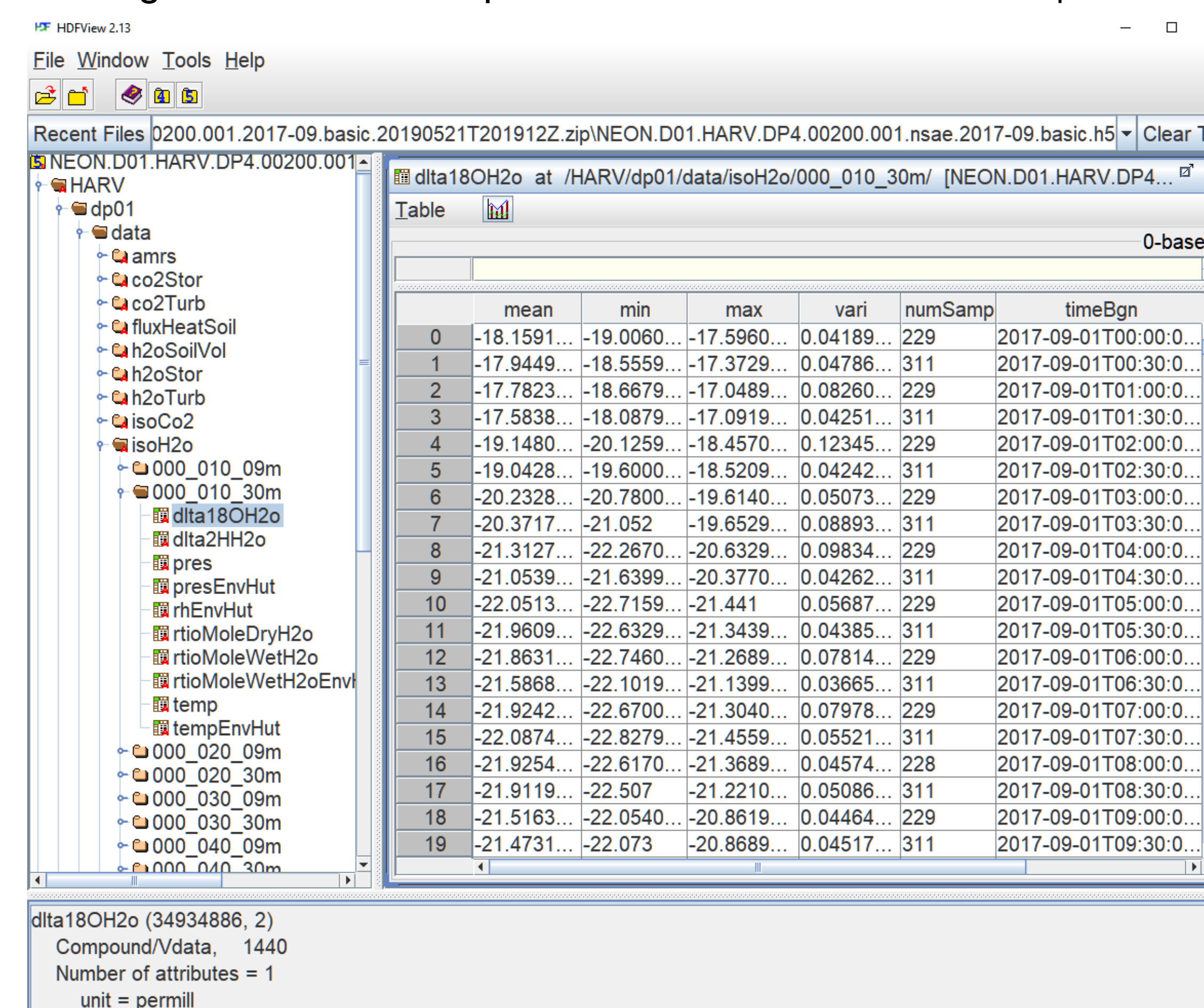


Figure 3. Data availability chart to indicate the available data by site and by month on data portal



Data format:

- csv (in case you don't want HDF5 files)
- `stackEddy` function in the `neonUtilities` R package is used to extract $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD data from downloaded HDF5 files and saved them as a csv file
- See: <https://www.battelleecology.org/eddy-data-intro> for a full tutorial
- See Figure 5 and Figure 6 for an example

Figure 5. Example to extract isotope data in csv format using `neonUtilities` R package →

```
## install neonUtilities package
install.packages("neonUtilities")

## load neonUtilities
library(neonUtilities)

## Download data via the API with the zipsByProduct function
zipsByProduct(dpid="DP4_00200_001", package="basic", |
  site=c("HARV"),
  startdate="2018-06", enddate="2018-07",
  savepath="C:/Users/cflorian/Desktop/neonUtilities/data",
  check.size=F)

## Use stackEddy() to extract data from bundled eddy covariance HDF5 file
HARV_H2O_isos <- stackEddy(filepath="C:/Users/cflorian/Desktop/neonUtilities/data",
  level="dp01", var=c("d18H2O"), avg=30)

## write to csv
write.csv(HARV_H2O_isos$HARV, "HARV_H2O_isos.csv")
```

Figure 6. Example of the csv output using `neonUtilities` R package →

High frequency data:

- 1Hz (in case you don't want the processed 9-min or 30-min average data)
- Follow the Level 0 Prime data download instructions (https://data.neonscience.org/api/v0/documents/EC_LOP_Download_Inst_20181119)
- Use `curl` or `python` to download

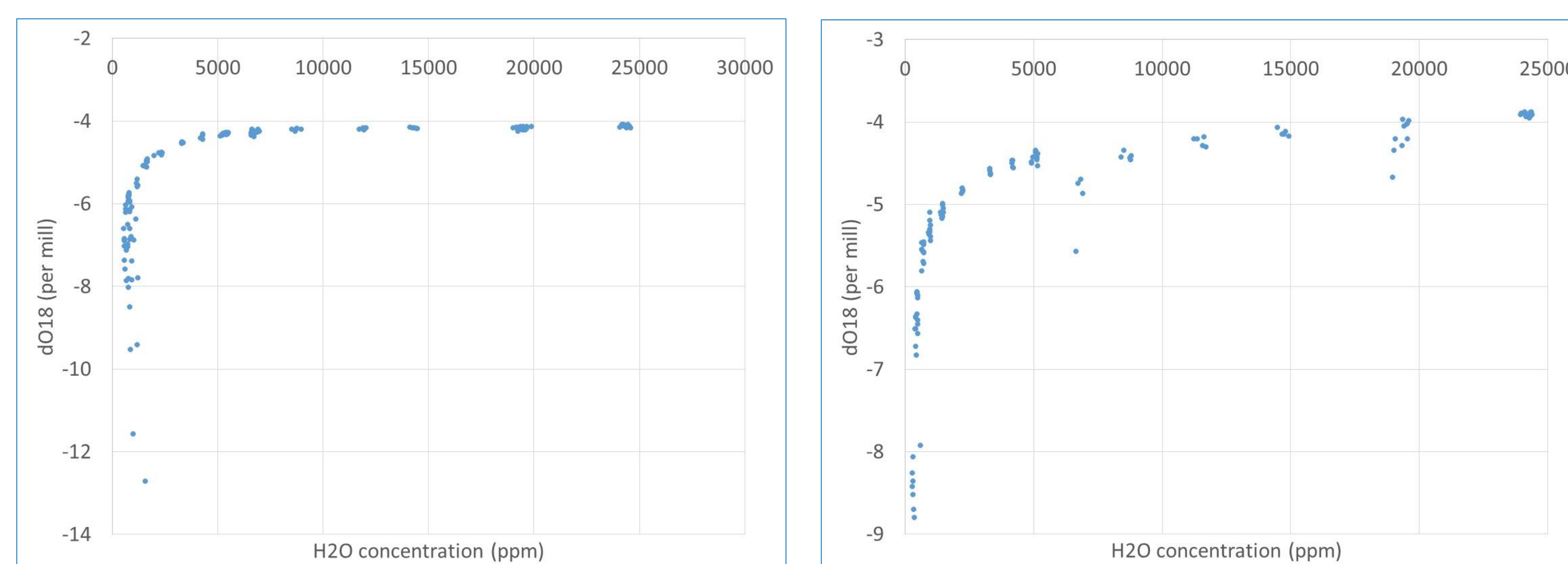


Figure 7. LHD curves at D04 GUAN site (left panel) and at D14 SRER site (right panel)