

Interactive comment on “Determining the stable isotope composition of pore water from saturated and unsaturated zone core: improvements to the direct vapor equilibration laser spectroscopy method” by M. J. Hendry et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Anonymous Reviewer #2:

I have completed my review of this manuscript and recommend publishing in its current form. I seldom have such clear recommendations, but this ms makes a very good contribution to the community of researchers focusing on porewaters in aquitards. The methods that the authors have tested here will be very useful to a number of researchers, and so this publication is very timely. The writing and organization is excellent. The ms suffers from no grammatical or typographical errors that I could find,

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and there are few recommendations that I can make to improve the ms. The authors might consider the following points and questions, although subsequent changes are not critical.

1. What are crystal clear bags? Is this a trademarked product or a general description?
2. In previous studies, I understand that the Ziploc bags are doubled, i.e. sealed in a second Ziploc. Was this the case here?
3. Where septum-fitted containers such as Exetainers or Isojars considered?
4. Picarro makes an accessory oven to combust organics during vapour injection. Was this device considered?
5. Figure 9: this is the reservoir effect on the residual water in the sample after loss to equilibrium of vapor in the headspace. Perhaps this could be clarified.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 12, 6241, 2015.

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