

## ***Interactive comment on “Isotope hydrology of dripwaters in a Scottish cave and implications for stalagmite palaeoclimate research” by L. Fuller et al.***

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Although a non-caveman, I found this an interesting and well-written paper which I believe merits eventual publication in HESS, subject to some views more expert than mine. Here I merely offer the following comments:

P554, para 1: I was interested to see that the weighted mean precipitation  $d_{18O}$  during the study is reasonably consistent with the  $d_{18O}$  groundwater isotope map from the second part of our HESS paper on UK isotopes (Hydrology Earth System Sciences 7, 183-195). Generally in the UK we would expect groundwater to be pretty close to the long-term weighted mean of precipitation, but we had little or no data from this part of

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Scotland so the contours had to be estimated to some extent. (The d2H however is not in such close agreement, but then the present paper does not really go anywhere with deuterium, i.e. there are no fluid inclusion data to relate to precipitation values.)

Fig 5: I would like to see a reference to the first part of our HESS paper (Hydrology Earth System Sciences 7, 163-181) in the caption: I know it is cited earlier, but not explicitly in connection with the Wallingford record, which was first presented in that paper. (Also, I would point out that Wallingford is usually regarded as being in southern rather than central England.)

NB I believe the Wallingford data for the period 2003-2005 is now on the GNIP if you wished to make a comparison (or I can send it). However, I appreciate the sites are about 600 miles apart so a month-by-month comparison may not help much.

Also, the GNIP would be pleased to acquire your precipitation dataset in due course: just contact Luis Araguas (l.araguas@iaea.org).

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 5, 547, 2008.

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