

water samples: $^2\text{H}, ^{18}\text{O}$

General: the sample bottles must be thoroughly rinsed first with the sample to be analysed. Use glass sample bottles which can be thoroughly closed. Label the bottles with a clear and unambiguous number.

Sampling

Sampling for ^{18}O analysis of water is straightforward. An amount of 3 ml is sufficient to perform both ^{18}O and ^2H analyses. Larger samples (ca. 10 ml) are recommended because they are more robust.

Sample conservation and mailing

The sample should be sent to the laboratory preferably in a totally filled and carefully closed bottle. In this condition the sample can be stored for months. If necessary, a plastic bottle can be used in view of break-free mailing. However, water tends to evaporate through the plastic or exchange with moisture of the surroundings, so that plastic bottles can only be allowed for short storage times. Cold storage at 0-5°C (especially in warmer areas) is necessary.