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4 **Stable isotopes (H, O, S) signatures evidencing evolutionary trends of**
5 **Brazilian spas groundwaters**

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27 Abstract

28 This paper reports a stable isotope (H, O, S) study of groundwater samples (25) in 10 spas
 29 from southeast Brazil. They are cold (25°C, 36%), hypothermal (25-33°C, 60%) and
 30 mesothermal (33-36°C, 4%) waters; and are predominantly composed of bicarbonate,
 31 carbonate and sodium. Dissolved sulfate is the dominant anion in one water sample and its
 32 concentration increased with increase in pH, electrical conductivity (EC) and total dissolved
 33 solids (TDS) values in the samples. ^2H and ^{18}O data reported in the literature for circa 700
 34 rainwater samples collected in São Paulo State and Brasília airport, Brazil, were used to
 35 construct the following regional meteoric waterline (RMWL): $\delta^2\text{H V-SMOW} (\text{‰}) = 8.06$
 36 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}} \text{ V-SMOW} (\text{‰}) + 12.85$. The H-O isotopes of the studied groundwater samples show a
 37 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ variation of -14.1 to -5.3‰ V-SMOW, whereas the $\delta^2\text{H}$ range was -66.5 to -31.7‰
 38 V-SMOW, which was plotted on or near the RMWL, suggesting a meteoric origin for them.
 39 However, one hypothermal water sample (29°C) plotted away from this RMWL, and is from a
 40 deep fractured aquifer which mainly occurs in fenitization aureole rocks surrounding the
 41 carbonatite complex at Araxá spa, Minas Gerais State, and a magmatic hydrothermal water
 42 may contribute to this water sample. The use of both $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values in the
 43 selected sites permitted the plotting of a mixture line of the dissolved sulfate in the different
 44 aquifer systems of this study, considering two major sources as endmembers: sulfide oxidation,
 45 SOX ($\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +1\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +1\text{‰}$) and sulfates possessing $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9\text{‰}$ and
 46 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +21\text{‰}$ (OSW). This is an unusual isotopic composition opposite from that of sea
 47 water. The $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values tend to increase with increase in dissolved sulfate
 48 concentration. The O-S isotopes signatures that deviated from the general mixture line could
 49 be due to several processes, including atmospheric deposition, SO_2 oxidation in the
 50 atmosphere, soil-derived sulfate, sulfide oxidation, evaporites dissolution and the presence of
 51 dissimilatory sulfate-reducing bacteria. Three sulfate isotope composition of spring waters
 52 from Águas da Prata spa in the Poços de Caldas alkaline massif (PCAM) represented
 53 endmember sources that defined a triangle around the remaining PCAM samples, as well as the
 54 samples from the crystalline basement, São Francisco craton, and Alto Paranaíba igneous
 55 province (APIP). Such triangle allows for estimation of the relative isotopic contribution in the
 56 different spas groundwaters, which is a new approach that focuses on the use of $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ -
 57 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ pair in environmental studies, and shows its usefulness in addition to other
 58 conventional hydrogeochemical fingerprints.

59 **Keywords:** spas groundwaters; southeast Brazil; H and O water isotopes; O and S isotopes in
 60 sulfates

61 1. Introduction

62

63 In Brazil, the use of thermal and mineral waters use is not a recent practice. It has been in
64 existence since the arrival of European immigrants, mainly from Portugal. Thermal and
65 mineral waters have been utilized in spas for baths and sometimes for bottling purposes. The
66 commercialization of bottled waters in the country has been managed by DNPM (National
67 Department of Mineral Production) who reported an amount higher than 1.5 billion liters at
68 São Paulo State in 2007 (CPRM, 2012).

69 Some hydrogeochemical studies of Brazilian spas groundwaters have already been
70 done under different approaches. For instance, several brands of bottled mineral waters were
71 classified according to the activity concentration values of the natural radionuclides ^{226}Ra ,
72 ^{228}Ra and ^{210}Pb present in them (Godoy et al., 2001) or grouped according to the total
73 dissolved solids (TDS) concentration (Bertolo et al., 2007), which also allow for the
74 establishment of compositional relationships with host igneous, metamorphic and
75 sedimentary silicate rocks of six aquifer systems of São Paulo State (Bulia and Enzweiler,
76 2018). Detailed hydrogeochemical surveys have been also conducted in some sites of the
77 country like at Águas da Prata spa in São Paulo State, where major compounds, trace
78 elements, the variations of the ^2H and ^{18}O compositions in rainwater and groundwater, and
79 the natural radionuclides ^{222}Rn and ^{226}Ra were monitored for investigating their seasonal
80 variation (Szikszay, 1981; Oliveira et al., 1998).

81 Additionally, the usefulness of the isotopic composition of water (H and O isotopes)
82 has also been demonstrated in other studies conducted in Brazil, for instance, to establish the
83 groundwater flow pattern in the northern portion of the Guarani Aquifer System (GAS)
84 (Gastmans et al., 2010) and to propose a conceptual geochemical model of the GAS that
85 suggests calcite dissolution driven by cation exchange in a relatively narrow front in São

86 Paulo State (Hirata et al., 2011). However, despite the knowledge obtained from such
87 studies, the use of both $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ in hydrologic investigations in Brazil is
88 incipient when compared to the country size due to the lack of measurements of the $^{34}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$
89 and $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ ratios in dissolved SO_4^{2-} . If available, they do not consider the various
90 lithologies present neither is there adoption of standardized procedures for sampling and
91 analyzes. Thus, in Brazil, little approaches have been done focusing on the integrated use of
92 the stable isotopes of H, O and S in the hydrological cycle, which are helpful to establish
93 water origin and understand the processes that are related to water/rock interactions as their
94 abundance in rainwater and groundwater allows for characterization of the host aquifers.

95 The $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values have been used to determine SO_4^{2-} sources and
96 pathways in the sulfur cycle, to better constrain the origin/fate of sulfate, to evaluate the
97 transformations undergone by this solute, and to trace the groundwater flow in aquifers
98 where the mineralogy may vary (Fritz and Fontes, 1980; Kroise and Van Everdingen, 1986;
99 Krouse et al., 1991; Clark and Fritz, 1997; Tweed et al., 2006). Also, additional hydrologic
100 applications worldwide include the tracing of anomalous TDS in surface waters of southern
101 Alberta, Canada (Grasby et al., 1997), the indication of flow processes in aquifers of the
102 Murray Basin, Australia (Dogramaci et al., 2001), the evaluation of the influence of mineral
103 weathering on stream water sulfate in Vermont and New Hampshire, USA (Bailey et al.,
104 2004), the acidification study in the Goose River watershed, Maine, USA (Sidle and Allen,
105 2004), the comparison of polluted and unpolluted sites in wetlands located in the British Isles
106 and the Czech Republic, Central Europe (Novák et al., 2005), the degradation of
107 groundwater quality in the Sichuan Basin, China (Li et al., 2006), the investigation of the
108 mining-affected and undisturbed acidic drainage in the Animas River watershed, Colorado,
109 USA (Nordstrom et al., 2007), the characterization of high arsenic groundwater in the
110 Quaternary aquifers of Datong Basin, northern China (Xie et al., 2009), the determination of

111 the sources of dissolved organic sulfur in the Archer Creek Catchment, USA (Kang et al.,
112 2014), and to improve definitions of groundwater catchment zones in the Province of
113 Malaga, Spain (Jiménez-Madrid et al., 2017), among others.

114 This paper **therefore** reports a novel isotopic (H, O, S) dataset for spas groundwaters
115 from southern Brazil. The water isotopes H and O in rainwater and groundwater have been
116 used for identifying the water origin and mixing processes occurring due to water-rock/soil
117 interactions, whereas the $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values **have been used** for evaluating
118 different sources of the dissolved sulfate in the related aquifer systems.

119

120 **2. Study area**

121

122 The groundwater samples (25) were taken from springs and pumped tubular wells from 10
123 spas located in the states of São Paulo (SP) and Minas Gerais (MG), Brazil: ASP-Águas de
124 São Pedro (2), ADP-Águas da Prata (4), ADL-Águas de Lindóia (1), TEI-Termas de Ibirá
125 (5), SLO-São Lourenço (2), CAM-Cambuquira (1), CAX-Caxambu (1), PDC-Poços de
126 Caldas (4), PRV-Pocinhos do Rio Verde (3) and AXA-Araxá (2). The water samples **were**
127 provided from different aquifer systems in the Paraná and Southeastern Shield
128 hydrogeological provinces at various geological contexts as reported by Mente (2008) (Fig. 1
129 and Table 1). The samples and spas codes are the same adopted by Bonotto (2016) in a
130 previous hydrogeochemical study.

131 The ASP and TEI spas are located in Paraná basin, a huge sedimentary area situated
132 between **the** parallels 10°-20° southern latitude and meridians 47°-64° western longitude,
133 comprising southern Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina. The basin constitutes a
134 geotectonic unit established over the South American Platform since the Lower Devonian or
135 Silurian (Almeida and Melo, 1981). The basal sandstones of Furnas Formation (Early

136 Devonian) are overlaid by the following units (Fig. 1): Itararé Subgroup (diamictites and
137 sandstones) and Tatuí Formation (siltstones and sandstones), both comprising the Tubarão
138 Aquifer System (Almeida and Melo, 1981); Passa Dois Group (fine shales, mudstones,
139 siltstones, and layers of dolomites), often considered an aquiclude due to the low
140 permeability lithotypes (Iritani and Ezaki, 2012); Pirambóia and Botucatu formations,
141 forming the Guarani Aquifer System (GAS), one of the largest aquifer units of the world
142 (Gilboa et al., 1976); Serra Geral Formation (basalt flows and dikes generated by the breakup
143 of Gondwana Supercontinent during Mesozoic Era) (Almeida and Melo, 1981), representing
144 the unique fractured aquifer unit in Paraná Basin; Bauru Group (sandstones, siltstones,
145 mudstones and locally conglomerates and limestones) (Fernandes, 2004), comprising the top
146 unit of the sedimentary sequence. In ASP spa, the groundwater from Tubarão Group was
147 pumped to the surface from wells exhibiting the following depths: GIO- 625 meters below ground
148 surface; JUV- 469 meters below ground surface (Kimmelman et al., 1987). Other aquifers of
149 more restricted occurrence in the sedimentary domain (porous flow) at São Paulo State are
150 Taubaté, São Paulo and Cananéia (Iritani and Ezaki, 2012) (Fig. 1).

151 Several spas of this study are located in the Central South Fractured domain (Fig. 1 and
152 Table 1). The groundwater sample LIN (ADL spa) discharges through
153 fractures/fissures/faults in migmatites (Del Rey, 1989) which is a common rock type that
154 occurs at Águas de Lindóia area (Zanardo, 1987). The ADP, PDC and PRV spas are located
155 in Poços de Caldas alkaline massif (PCAM) that comprises a suite of alkaline volcanic and
156 plutonic rocks (mainly phonolites and nepheline syenites) whose evolutionary history started
157 with major early volcanism involving ankaratrites (biotite-bearing nephelinite), phonolite
158 lavas, and volcano-clastics (Schorscher and Shea, 1992). Extensive number of faults,
159 fractures and fissures exert an important control on the drainage system and hydrogeological
160 framework of the PCAM (Holmes et al., 1992). The groundwaters from PDC and PRV spas

161 discharge through crystalline fractured rocks (Cruz and Peixoto, 1989), whilst the following
162 springs were sampled at ADP spa (Szikszay, 1981): BOI (discharges into sandstones), VIT
163 (discharges through fissures in diabase), PLA and POL (discharge through volcanic tuffs,
164 phonolites and eudialite-bearing nepheline syenites).

165 The AXA spa is located at the Alto Paranaíba igneous province (APIP), including the
166 renowned Araxá carbonatite circular intrusion (diameter ~4.5 km) (Traversa et al., 2001).
167 The APIP comprises a diverse suite of ultrapotassic-potassic, ultramafic-mafic, silica-
168 undersaturated lavas and hypabyssal intrusions with very high concentrations of
169 incompatible trace elements and rare earths elements (REEs) (Gibson et al., 1995; Gomes
170 and Comin-Chiaramonti, 2005). Two springs were sampled at AXA spa: DBJ- associated to
171 a free to semi-confined granular aquifer system that occurs in the weathered mantle of the
172 carbonatite complex; AJU- related to a deep fractured unconfined to semi-confined aquifer,
173 mainly occurring in rocks surrounding the carbonatite complex (Beato et al., 2000).

174 The SLO, CAM and CAX spas are located in an area characterized by minor alkaline
175 occurrences representing multi-stage intrusions emplaced into Late-Proterozoic metamorphic
176 rocks (CPRM, 1999). The main rocks in the region are biotite gneisses, migmatized
177 granitoids, protomylonites, mylonite gneisses, metabasites intercalations secondarily cut by
178 pegmatoids veins, schists, weathered quartzites and alluvial deposits. The gneissic rocks in
179 Caxambu hill are cut by mafic dykes and alkaline breccias that constitute important recharge
180 areas of the fractured aquifers (CPRM, 1999).

181

182 **3. Sampling and analytical methods**

183

184 Each groundwater sample was collected during the dry season (June-September) to avoid the
185 contribution of recent recharged rainwater. Limitation of the samples number was due to the

186 study area size and the costs involved in field trips and analyses. All water samples are
187 sometimes used for drinking purposes, whilst some are commercialized by private
188 companies under different brands.

189 The groundwater samples were collected from taps/pipes installed in each
190 spring/well, stored in polyethylene bottles and transported to LABIDRO-Isotopes and
191 Hydrochemistry Laboratory, Rio Claro city, for chemical analysis. Temperature, electrical
192 conductivity (EC), pH, redox potential (Eh), and dissolved gases (O₂, CO₂ and H₂S) were
193 measured *in situ* to avoid losses/modification during the process of transportation. A flow-
194 through cell (similar to models developed by Eijkelkamp, Netherlands) was used to prevent
195 contact with the atmosphere, whilst portable digital meters (Digimed, Hanna and Hach) were
196 employed for such readings.

197 The samples were preserved at 4°C in darkness before the chemical analysis. Each
198 one was divided into different aliquots and unfiltered + unpreserved or filtered through 0.45
199 µm Millipore membrane + preserved with different acids, depending on the requirements of
200 the analyzes. Bonotto (2006, 2016) detailed the principal steps involved in the
201 physicochemical, dissolved gases and major ions characterization of the water samples, as
202 well the detection limit of each analytical technique adopted.

203 The groundwater sampling and storage for ²H and ¹⁸O measurements followed the
204 general guidelines proposed elsewhere (Clark and Fritz, 1997; Mook, 2000). The δ¹⁸O and
205 δ²H readings were conducted at Geosciences Institute, University of Brasília, Brasília (DF),
206 Brazil, by wavelength Cavity Ring Down Spectroscopy (CRDS) technique through Picarro
207 L2120-i. The CRDS uses a beam from a single-frequency laser diode entering a cavity
208 defined by three high reflectivity mirrors to support a continuous travelling light wave
209 (Picarro, 2010). The results were expressed in parts per mil (‰) relative to the ¹⁸O/¹⁶O and
210 ²H/¹H ratios of the Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water (V-SMOW). Three IAEA

211 (International Atomic Energy Agency) named international standards were used for data
 212 correction: VSMOW2 ($\delta^2\text{H}= 0\text{‰}$; $\delta^{18}\text{O}= 0\text{‰}$), SLAP2 ($\delta^2\text{H}= -427.5\text{‰}$; $\delta^{18}\text{O}= -55.5\text{‰}$), and
 213 GISP ($\delta^2\text{H}= -189.5\text{‰}$; $\delta^{18}\text{O}= -24.76\text{‰}$). Analytical uncertainties (1σ) on the samples
 214 readings were 1‰ for $\delta^2\text{H}$ and 0.2‰ for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, whilst the following equations were used for
 215 the data generation:

$$216 \quad \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}} = \{[(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{sample}}/(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{V-SMOW}}] - 1\} \times 1000 \quad (1)$$

$$217 \quad \delta^2\text{H} = \{[(^2\text{H}/^1\text{H})_{\text{sample}}/(^2\text{H}/^1\text{H})_{\text{V-SMOW}}] - 1\} \times 1000 \quad (2)$$

218 The groundwater samples analysis for $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ was conducted at the
 219 “Centres Científic i Tècnics” from the University of Barcelona (CCiTUB), Barcelona, Spain.
 220 Each aliquot was acidified with HCl and a barium chloride saturated solution was added in
 221 excess to variable sample volume for precipitating ~ 50 mg of BaSO_4 . The precipitation was
 222 held at $\sim 100^\circ\text{C}$ in order to **prevent BaCO_3 formation**. The hot solution **was allow to rest for**
 223 **1-3 days for the precipitate formed to settle down; and the solution** was filtered **using** a $3 \mu\text{m}$
 224 paper filter, dried at room temperature (7-10 days), inserted into a Schott glass vial and
 225 heated for **3 h** at 100°C **prior** to the isotopic analyses in order to remove humidity. $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$
 226 was analyzed in a Carlo Erba Elemental Analyzer (EA) coupled in continuous flow to a
 227 Finnigan Mat Delta plus XP IRMS. $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ was analyzed in duplicate with a ThermoQuest
 228 TC/EA unit (high temperature conversion elemental analyzer) with a Finnigan Mat Delta
 229 plus XP IRMS. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ data (in ‰) were determined by the equations:

$$230 \quad \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = \{[(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{sample}}/(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{V-SMOW}}] - 1\} \times 1000 \quad (3)$$

$$231 \quad \delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = \{[(^{34}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S})_{\text{sample}}/(^{34}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S})_{\text{V-CDT}}] - 1\} \times 1000 \quad (4)$$

232 where $(^{34}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S})_{\text{V-CDT}}$ is the Vienna scaled $^{34}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$ ratio from troilite (FeS) of the iron
 233 meteorite Cañyon Diablo and $(^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O})_{\text{V-SMOW}}$ is the $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ ratio of the V-SMOW.
 234 According to Coplen (2011), for normalization of analyses, the following international and
 235 laboratory standards were employed: $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ results- three international standards (NBS-

236 127, SO₅, SO₆) and one internal laboratory standard (CCIT-YCEM; $\delta^{34}\text{S} = +12.8 \text{ ‰}$);
237 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ results- three international standards (NBS-127, SO₆, USGS-34) and two internal
238 laboratory standards (CCIT-YCEM, $\delta^{18}\text{O} = +17.6 \text{ ‰}$; CCIT-ACID, $\delta^{18}\text{O} = +13.2 \text{ ‰}$). The
239 reproducibility (1σ) of the samples as calculated from standards systematically interspersed
240 in the analytical batches corresponded to $\pm 0.2 \text{ ‰}$ for $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\pm 0.5 \text{ ‰}$ for $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$.

241

242 4. Results

243

244 Table 2 shows the physicochemical and major hydrochemical data of the water samples
245 focused on this study, including the parameter W that corresponds to the TDS removal rate.
246 W (in ton/yr) was estimated by using the equation $W = D \times C$, where C is the TDS
247 concentration, and D is the water source discharge as reported by Del Rey (1989), Yoshinaga
248 (1990) and Hurter et al. (1983), among others. The aquifers size and groundwater residence
249 time are poorly known in most of the systems studied. Thus, other weathering rates or
250 dissolution rates such as those parameters reported by Andrews and Wood (1972) could not
251 be estimated with confidence and so were not taking into account. Contrarily, calculation of
252 W is easy and direct, providing the whole amount of TDS removed over time in each
253 spring/well. The average TDS concentration that came from atmospheric deposition
254 collected in 10 monitoring stations installed at São Paulo State was 6.6 mg/L (Cresswell and
255 Bonotto, 2008). It corresponds to 12% of the lowest TDS value found in the water sample
256 BOI (54 mg/L, Table 2), only 0.2% of the highest TDS value was obtained in the water
257 sample AJU (2898 mg/L, Table 2), and about 0.9% of the average TDS concentration was
258 obtained from the water samples (760 mg/L). Therefore, the effect of the atmospheric
259 deposition in the W value may be only slightly significant for TDS < 100 mg/L (water
260 samples BOI, LIN, and DBJ).

261 The guidelines of the Brazilian Code of Mineral Waters for temperature (DFPM,
262 1966) allow **classification of** spas groundwaters as cold (25°C, 9 water samples - 36%),
263 hypothermal (25-33°C, 15 water samples - 60%), and mesothermal (33-36°C, 1 water sample
264 - 4%). The waters analyzed are reducing as indicated by the Eh-pH diagram shown in Fig. 2.

265 Fluoride is a constituent of health concern, exceeding the WHO (2011) guideline
266 reference value of 1.5 mg/L in 14 water samples (56%). The French mineral water brands
267 Quézac, Vichy Célestins, and Vichy Saint-Yorre also exhibit F⁻ levels above 1.5 mg/L, but
268 they represent only 16% of all European waters described by Eupedia (2016). High-fluoride
269 groundwaters have **also** been recognized in several aquifers worldwide (Reddy et al., 2010;
270 Edmunds and Smedley, 2013). The F⁻/Cl⁻ molar ratios above 1 in several water samples from
271 PCAM highlight that F⁻ is dominant relative to Cl⁻.

272 The Piper (1944) diagram as plotted from the Aquachem 4.0 software (Waterloo
273 Hydrogeologic, 2003) shows that bicarbonate (range of 0-1390 mg/L), carbonate (range of 0-
274 2160 mg/L) and sodium (range of 1.9-1510 mg/L) are the dominant ions in the studied water
275 sources (Fig. 2). Additionally, in terms of dissolved anions, such diagram shows that sulfate
276 (range of 3-225 mg/L) predominates in the GIO sample (ASP spa), whilst chloride (range of
277 2.1-48 mg/L) dominates in the BOI sample (ADP spa) (Fig. 2).

278 Statistical tests applied to dataset reported in Table 2 indicated significant Pearson
279 correlation coefficient (r) of EC with the following parameters: TDS (r=0.93), Na⁺ (r=0.92),
280 ALK (r=0.81), Cl⁻ (r=0.80), SO₄²⁻ (r=0.74), and W (r=0.70). The EC-TDS relationship is a
281 logical requirement widely reported elsewhere (e.g. Hem, 1985). The pH values **increase**
282 with **increase in** the sulfate concentration **which** also correlates with TDS and W (Fig. 3). In
283 a previous study, Bonotto (1993) reported enhanced ²³⁴U/²³⁸U activity ratio (AR) associated
284 to higher W values in water samples from ADP spa. Thus, W=0.8 ton/yr and AR=4.0 (water
285 sample BOI), whilst W= 200 ton/yr and AR=8.3 (water sample PLA). The higher W values

286 suggested a ^{234}U enhancement in solution associated with the weathering increase in the
287 aquifers (Bonotto, 1993).

288 Table 3 reports all stable isotopes (H, O, S) data obtained in this study. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$
289 range was -14.1 to -5.3‰ V-SMOW, whereas the $\delta^2\text{H}$ range was -66.5 to -31.7‰ V-
290 SMOW. Table 3 shows the highest $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values of GIO and JUV water samples (ASP
291 spa) relative to other spas groundwaters. The lowest $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ value ($+2.3\text{‰}$) was found at
292 BOI spring (ADP spa) that also exhibits the lowest EC ($40 \mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) and TDS concentration
293 ($54 \text{ mg}/\text{L}$). The $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ data in the spas groundwaters are plotted in Fig. 3
294 against the dissolved sulfate concentration. Progressive higher $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values occurred
295 accompanying the dissolved sulfate concentration (or W) increase (Fig. 3). The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$
296 values also tended to fit a linear relationship with the SO_4 concentration (Fig. 3) as they
297 increased according to the sulfate levels increase.

298 Theoretical relationships involving sulfate-oxygen exchange rates at environmental
299 temperatures in the presence of atmospheric oxygen have been pointed out by Van
300 Stempvoort and Krouse (1994). They allowed the construction of a $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ *versus* $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$
301 diagram (Fig. 4), in which the two major fields comprised an area dominated by primordial
302 sulfate or SO_2 oxidation in the atmosphere and another area of sulfates derived *from* sulfide
303 oxidation. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ data reported in this paper (Table 3) are plotted in Fig.
304 4, which shows that the lower $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ data of the water samples BOI, BZA and DBJ are in
305 the field of sulfates derived by sulfide oxidation. For other groundwaters, the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$
306 values indicate that SO_4 is likely derived from a mixture of sources including atmospheric
307 deposition, soil-derived sulfate, sulfide oxidation and evaporite dissolution.

308

309 **4. Discussion**

310

311 *4.1. ²H and ¹⁸O in rainwater and groundwaters*

312

313 The ²H and ¹⁸O dataset in rainwater corresponded to about 700 samples **obtained** from
 314 monitoring stations installed at different sites: Águas da Prata (SP) (Szikszay, 1981); São
 315 Carlos (SP) and Ribeirão Preto (SP) (Silva, 1983); Rio Claro (SP), São Pedro (SP), Botucatu
 316 (SP), Águas de Santa Bárbara (SP), Assis (SP) and Presidente Prudente (SP) (Soler i Gil and
 317 Bonotto, 2015); Santa Maria da Serra (SP), Piracicaba (SP), Campinas (SP), Bragança
 318 Paulista (SP), São Paulo (SP) and Brasília (DF, airport) (IAEA, 2017). ²H and ¹⁸O in
 319 rainwater showed wide dispersion, with $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ range of -21.5 to $+4.9\text{‰}$ V-SMOW (mean=
 320 -4.88‰) and $\delta^2\text{H}$ range of -162.0 to $+43.2\text{‰}$ V-SMOW (mean= -26.5‰). They scattered
 321 around the regional meteoric waterline (RMWL) (Fig. 5):

$$322 \quad \delta^2\text{H V-SMOW (‰)} = 8.06 \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water V-SMOW (‰)}} + 12.85 \quad (5)$$

323 The $\delta^2\text{H}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ in precipitation worldwide tends to fit the following global
 324 meteoric water line (GMWL) as defined by Craig (1961) from analytical data:

$$325 \quad \delta^2\text{H} = 8 \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}} + 10 \quad (6)$$

326 Rozanski et al. (1993) confirmed its validity, defining **equation 7** from the
 327 compilation of average annual ¹⁸O and ²H values in precipitation monitored at stations
 328 throughout the IAEA global network.

$$329 \quad \delta^2\text{H} = 8.13 \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}} + 10.8 \quad (7)$$

330 Therefore, the RMWL and GMWL slopes are practically the same, implying that
 331 both straight lines are parallels (Fig. 5). However, the deuterium excess of the RMWL is
 332 slightly higher (about $+2$ to $+3\text{‰}$) than that of the GMWL (Fig. 5). In general, differences in

333 the deuterium excess have been attributed to the moisture source regions over the oceans,
334 from which the atmospheric moisture for subsequent precipitation events is derived.
335 Martinelli et al. (1996) found out that large rivers and lakes are likely contributors of
336 evaporated water to the atmosphere, returning water in vapor form from the land to the
337 atmosphere, via plant transpiration. Thus, evaporation produces an increase of deuterium
338 excess in Amazonian rain waters (Martinelli et al., 1996), and, in this sense, the observed
339 higher deuterium excess values can be produced by the contribution of the land waters
340 evaporation as a source of water vapor to the atmosphere.

341 The $\delta^{12}\text{H}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ data in the spas groundwaters (Table 3) are also plotted in Fig.
342 5. Except for the AJU water sample (AXA spa), all other values fit the RMWL, indicating
343 that the groundwater origin in the different aquifer systems investigated is directly related to
344 the meteoric water precipitation.

345 Certain physicochemical processes have been pointed out as responsible for causing
346 deviations from the meteoric water line (IAEA, 1983; Hackley, 1996): evaporation, high-
347 and low-temperature exchange reactions with rock minerals, hydration of silicates, CO_2 -
348 exchange reactions, H_2S -exchange reactions, and methanogenesis. The AJU water sample
349 (AXA spa) is hypothermal (29°C), obtained from a deep fractured aquifer mainly occurring
350 in rocks surrounding the carbonatite complex that is characterized by a fenitization (*in situ*
351 metasomatism of country rock) aureole surrounding it, which possess a ring structure and
352 ~ 2.5 km-thickness (Traversa et al., 2001; Gomes and Comin-Chiaramonti, 2005).
353 Fenitization processes involve chemical changes affecting 100-160 anions (O, OH, F) in the
354 crystalline system (Appleyard and Woolley, 1979; Kresten, 1988). Variation diagrams have
355 been sometimes constructed on the basis of 100-160 oxygens, showing the increase in most
356 cations with decreasing silica (Kresten, 1988). Some quantitative estimates of mass transfer
357 during fenitization assume that oxygen is immobile, but other O-isotopes studies have

358 indicated oxygen transfer promoted by a highly mobile fluid containing enhanced H₂O and
359 CO₂ levels (Yund and Anderson, 1974). Water-CO₂ equilibrium at low temperatures (10-
360 60°C) produces an isotopic fractionation with ¹⁸O-enrichment in CO₂ and ¹⁸O-depletion in
361 water, without any significant change in the δ²H values (Brenninkmeijer et al., 1983). Also,
362 Karolyte et al. (2017) reported that oxygen isotope deviations without a change in hydrogen
363 isotopes can be interpreted as the result of oxygen isotope equilibrium exchange between
364 CO₂ and water, mineral dissolution and re-precipitation, or isotopic exchange with minerals.
365 The AJU hypothermal water is poor in CO₂ but very rich in CO₃²⁻ (Table 2) due to
366 interactions with carbonate minerals from two principal Araxá fenitized lithological groups
367 (carbonatites and mica-rich rocks) (Traversa et al., 2001). Such mineral dissolution processes
368 could justify the lowest δ¹⁸O_{water} observed in this water sample (Fig. 5).

369 Lower δ²H and δ¹⁸O_{water} values have been sometimes pointed out as a consequence of
370 higher altitude or more continental recharge zones, whereas higher δ²H and δ¹⁸O_{water} values
371 due to Rayleigh fractionation during the cloud exhausting (Clark and Fritz, 1997). A
372 convincing evaluation of these aspects is not feasible in the study area because of the limited
373 data availability. Also, there is not enough information on the predominant directions of
374 moisture sources and pathways in the atmospheric circulation, as well as the latitude and
375 continental effects influencing the isotopic composition of precipitation/groundwater. No
376 correlation was found in the preliminary statistical tests among the acquired δ²H and δ¹⁸O_{water}
377 data and the corresponding spas altitude (Fig. 6). For instance, the water samples GIO-JUV
378 (ASP spa) and JOR-ADB-CGO-SRC-SEI (TEI spa) are in equivalent altitudes (~450-470 m)
379 but their δ²H and δ¹⁸O_{water} values differ considerably: mean δ²H = -33.6‰ (ASP spa) and
380 -64.4‰ (TEI spa); mean δ¹⁸O_{water} = -5.5‰ (ASP spa) and -9.6‰ (TEI spa). This finding
381 probably could be explained by the location of the recharge zones for both spas at different
382 altitudes, i.e. higher for TEI spa and lower for ASP spa. Thus, for confirming this hypothesis,

383 further work is necessary in order to determine the recharge areas of the different aquifer
384 systems in the spas.

385

386 *4.2. Evolutionary trends from sulfur and oxygen isotopes in sulfates*

387

388 In general, dissolved sulfates **that** originated **from** evaporate dissolution are easy to identify
389 because of their characteristic isotopic composition of $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} > 10\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} > 12\text{‰}$
390 (Claypool et al., 1980). Highly positive $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ ($> 20\text{‰}$) was found in groundwaters GIO
391 and JUV from ASP spa (Table 3). The Permian Irati Formation of the Passa Dois Group is
392 the main sedimentary sequence of the Paraná basin containing isolated occurrences of marine
393 evaporites of Permo-Carboniferous age (Cabral Jr., 1991). Santos Neto (1993) identified
394 confined evaporitic conditions associated **with** mm- or cm-thick layers of gypsum and
395 nodular anhydrite close to ASP spa in a black shale-carbonate sequence of the Irati
396 Formation (SP). Unfortunately, Santos Neto (1993) did not record any $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$
397 dissolved sulfate data in his study. However, Ferreira (2010) found $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values between
398 $+4.9\text{‰}$ and $+7.4\text{‰}$ in bituminous shales from Irati Formation at SIX (Superintendence of
399 Schist Industrialization) Quarry, Paraná State, and a value of $+5.9\text{‰}$ in a sulfur by-product
400 sample. These low $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values reflect SO_4 from sulfide oxidation in the shales as
401 reported elsewhere (Chao, 2011). Ferreira (2010) also reported highly positive $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$
402 values ($+16.7\text{‰}$ and $+17.0\text{‰}$) in gypsum samples from Santana Formation, Araripe basin,
403 northeastern Brazil, which correspond to sediments of marine facies deposited under
404 lacustrine evaporitic conditions. Such high $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values are compatible with those found
405 in dissolved SO_4 in groundwaters GIO and JUV (ASP spa).

406 Different evolutionary/mixing trends from the acquired $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ data of the
407 dissolved sulfate samples may be suggested. A mixing line can be constructed considering

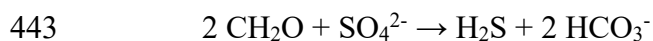
408 two major sources as end members (Table 3 and Fig. 7): sulfide oxidation, SOX ($\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} =$
 409 $+1\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +1\text{‰}$) and sulfates possessing $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +21\text{‰}$
 410 (OSW) that is an unusual isotopic composition opposite from that of sea water ($\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} =$
 411 $+21\text{‰}$; $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9\text{‰}$).

412 Highly positive $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values close to $+21\text{‰}$ have been reported in Precambrian
 413 evaporites (Sakai, 1972; Claypool et al., 1980) or acid rain (Jedrysek, 2000) that may reach
 414 SO_4 levels of up to 59 mg/L in some sites (Jedrysek, 2000). Temperature and pressure
 415 gradients favor the water-rock isotopic exchange in geothermal fields and sedimentary
 416 sequences at depths of a few thousand meters (Iacumin et al., 1991). $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ shifts for SO_4
 417 in groundwaters flowing through sedimentary sequences have been recorded in different
 418 situations (Boschetti, 2013): high-enthalpy hydrothermal systems ($T > 150^\circ\text{C}$); low-enthalpy
 419 ($T < 150^\circ\text{C}$) sulfate-water systems. Iacumin et al. (1991) pointed out that highly positive
 420 oxygen isotope values (up to $+15.3\text{‰}$) exhibited by flood basalts from the Paraná basin
 421 would be the result of secondary post-eruptive hydrothermal exchange processes between
 422 rock and ^{18}O -enriched water. The ^{18}O -enriched water can be formed by isotopic exchange
 423 between normal (meteoric) groundwater and either the thick sedimentary sequence
 424 underlying the volcanic sequence in the Paraná basin or the crystalline basement rocks
 425 (Iacumin et al., 1991).

426 Bonotto (2016) estimated a temperature of 83°C for the water sample ADB (TEI spa)
 427 from SiO_2 geothermometer. Its corresponding $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ dissolved sulfate values
 428 practically coincide with those of the end-member OSW. The average geothermal gradient of
 429 the Paraná basin is $28^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$ (Vitarello et al., 1978), implying a temperature of $\sim 130^\circ\text{C}$ at the
 430 deeper portions (~ 5 km). These conditions are typical of low-enthalpy systems sometimes
 431 characterized by exchange reactions affecting the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ -values (Boschetti, 2013) that
 432 could explain this unknown end-member ($\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9\text{‰}$; $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +21\text{‰}$).

433 The lower $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values from BOI spring (ADP spa) (Fig. 7) are in
434 agreement with dissolved SO_4 **provided** from sulfides oxidation in the aquifer. The
435 evolutionary line in Fig. 7 suggests that all samples **resulted from** a mixing between sulfates
436 from sulfides oxidation and sulfates with the OSW isotopic composition, perhaps derived
437 from dissolution of Permian evaporites exhibiting $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9\text{‰}$ (Claypool et al., 1980).
438 Deviation from the **line of mixture** can be explained by sulfate reduction processes that
439 seems very clear for the ASP spa springs.

440 Dissimilatory sulfate-reducing bacteria such as *Desulfovibrio desulfuricans*, among
441 others, are recognized to cause sulfur isotope fractionations based on the following reaction
442 in which CH_2O represents generic organic matter (Seal, 2006):



444 The reaction shows that organic carbon is oxidized, while sulfate is reduced. The H_2S
445 can be lost to the water column, reoxidized, fixed as iron-sulfide minerals or other sulfide
446 minerals, or fixed as organic-bound sulfur (Seal, 2006). The enhanced H_2S concentration of
447 $\sim 3 \text{ mg/L}$ in groundwater JUV from ASP spa (Table 2) is compatible with this process. The
448 sequence of organic-rich shales and carbonates of the Irati Formation close to ASP spa has
449 been extensively studied due to its importance as a potential hydrocarbons source rock of the
450 Paraná Basin, exhibiting the potential to generate liquid hydrocarbons (Lisboa, 2006).
451 Therefore, these high reducing conditions are favorable for the dissimilatory sulfate-reducing
452 bacteria to gain energy for their growth by catalyzing chemical reactions using the organic
453 carbon. The fractionation of sulfur isotopes between sulfate and sulfide during bacterial
454 sulfate reduction is a kinetically controlled process in which ^{34}S and $^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ are enriched in
455 the sulfate relative to the sulfide (Seal, 2006). The highly positive $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values found in
456 groundwaters GIO and JUV from ASP spa (Table 3 and Fig. 7) could be explained by sulfate
457 reduction processes.

458 Thus, the ASP spa waters agree with a sulfate origin from dissolution of Permian-
 459 Triassic sulfate that has suffered sulfate reduction processes. The following trends are also
 460 observed in Fig. 7 for the isotopic composition of dissolved sulfate in waters: ADL spa-
 461 agreement with an origin from dissolution of Permian-Triassic sulfates whilst the Lower
 462 Proterozoic geological materials indicate a large flow path; TEI spa- agreement with the
 463 OSW end-member sulfate source; SLO, CAM and CAX spas- seems to result from a
 464 mixture between sulfates from sulfide oxidation and sulfates from Triassic evaporates
 465 dissolution or with the OSW end-member sulfate source; ADP spa- results from a mixture
 466 between sulfide oxidation and the OSW end-member sulfate source, whereas the deviation of
 467 one sample from the mixing line according to a sulfate reduction trend can be interpreted
 468 also as a participation of Permian-Triassic sulfate.

469

470 4.3. Mixing models from sulfur and oxygen isotopes in sulfates

471

472 Mixing models for identifying possible sulfate sources in the waters may be constructed
 473 from $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ signatures of dissolved sulfate in two major geological contexts:

474 1) Paraná sedimentary basin (TEI spa). If the measurement uncertainty of the
 475 $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values is discarded, the following straight line can be traced (Fig. 8): $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} =$
 476 $-6.98\text{‰} \times \delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} + 83.09\text{‰}$. It suggests that the water samples JOR and ADB are end-
 477 members, whereas the isotopic composition of the remaining samples (CGO, SRC, and SEI;
 478 $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9.2\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +17.6\text{‰}$) result from their mixing. Thus, the groundwater
 479 ADB would contribute ~30% of the sulfate isotopic composition in the mixture. However, if
 480 the measurement uncertainty of the $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values is taken into account, only the signature
 481 of the sample JOR would be different from the remaining samples that could be grouped

482 together into a distinct type (Fig. 8), perhaps due to the **slightly** enhanced dissolved sulfate
483 concentration in the sample JOR (Table 2).

484 2) Crystalline basement (ADL spa), PCAM (ADP, PDC, and PRV spas), APIP (AXA
485 spa) and São Francisco craton (SLO, CAX, and CAM spas). The sulfate isotopic
486 composition of all studied samples could be interpreted as the result of three end-member
487 sources corresponding to BOI/BZA, PLA, and VIT that define a triangle around the rest of
488 samples, allowing the estimation of distinct sulfate isotopes contribution in the different spas
489 groundwaters (LIN, POL, NOV, MAC, SIN, PEB, RIV, SMA, SJO, SL1, SL9, MAR, DBJ,
490 and AJU) (Fig. 8). The triangle vertices comprise groundwaters **that are** related to different
491 flow systems through distinct rock types occurring at ADP spa and belonging to the PCAM
492 geological context such as sandstones (end-member BOI; porous flow), basalts and diabases
493 (end-member VIT; fissures/fractures flow) and volcanic tuffs, phonolites and eudialite-
494 bearing nepheline syenites (end-member PLA; fissures/fractures flow). Some water samples
495 plotted inside the triangle (POL, NOV, MAC, SIN, PEB, RIV, SMA and SJO) also occur at
496 the PCAM, whereas the remaining **ones** (LIN, SL1, SL9, MAR, DBJ, and AJU) **were**
497 **provided** from groundwater systems **that occur** at the crystalline basement in São Paulo State,
498 APIP and São Francisco craton. Their sulfate source contribution can be successfully
499 estimated from the mixing proportions of the $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ sulfate signatures of the three
500 end-members in the triangle vertices similarly to several calculations realized by Bonotto
501 (2017) from the dissolved uranium concentration and AR data in a larger number of spas
502 groundwater samples of southeastern Brazil.

503

504 **5. Conclusion**

505

506 Bicarbonate, carbonate and sodium are the dominant ions in the studied water
507 samples. The water isotopes data indicate that all samples fit the Regional Meteoric Water
508 Line (RMWL), which suggest that the groundwater origin in the different aquifer systems
509 investigated is directly related to the meteoric water precipitation. The interactions of the
510 AJU hypothermal water (AXA spa) with carbonate minerals from two principal Araxá
511 fenitized lithological groups (carbonatites and mica-rich rocks) can justify its lowest $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$
512 value pointing out of the RMWL. No statistical correlation between the $\delta^2\text{H}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$
513 data and respective spas altitude can explain the water isotopic variation. Further work is
514 necessary to determine the recharge area of the different aquifer systems in the spas in order
515 to confirm this hypothesis. The $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ values tend to be progressively higher according to
516 the enhancement of the dissolved sulfate concentration and the increase in the TDS removal
517 rate (W) as estimated after multiplying the water sample discharge by the TDS
518 concentration. The dissolved sulfate isotopic composition of the spas groundwaters results
519 from different contribution sulfates from diverse origins, i.e. sulfates from sulfide oxidation
520 and sulfates from sulfate dissolution of two sources: a) Permian evaporites; b) unknown
521 origin characterized by $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}} = +9\text{‰}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}} = +21\text{‰}$ (OSW) that is an unusual
522 isotopic composition opposite from that of sea water. The OSW isotopic composition is very
523 similar to that of the sample ADB and can be explained by exchange reactions affecting the
524 $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ -values in low-enthalpy systems. Also, sulfate reduction processes seem to be very
525 clear for the water samples of ASP spa, which makes it possible to explain deviation from
526 the mixing line for these three sulfate sources. The sulfate isotope composition of all studied
527 samples can be interpreted as the result of three sulfate endmember sources corresponding to
528 BOI/BZA, PLA, and VIT. They define a triangle around the remaining samples, making it
529 possible to estimate the diverse sulfate contribution in the different spas groundwaters LIN,
530 POL, NOV, MAC, SIN, PEB, RIV, SMA, SJO, SL1, SL9, MAR, DBJ, and AJU.

531

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542

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Table 1. Description of the water samples analyzed in this paper.

| Spa (State ¹) | Latitude | Longitude | Altitude (m) | Spring (spr) or well (wl) identification | Hydrogeological Province ² | Dominant flow | Major rock types | Geological context/age |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| ASP-Águas de São Pedro (SP) | 23°35'30"S | 47°53'38" W | 470 | Gioconda (wl)/GIO Juventude (wl)/JUV | Paraná | porous | sandstones | Botucatu Fm. (Jurassic) Pirambóia Fm. (Triassic) Itararé and Irati formations (Permian) |
| ADP-Águas da Prata (SP) | 21°56'18"S | 46°42'54" W | 840 | Platina (spr)/PLA Paiol (spr)/POL Vitória (spr)/VIT Boi (spr)/BOI | Paraná | fractures | diabases, phonolites, alkaline rocks silicified sandstones | Botucatu Fm. (Jurassic) Serra Geral Fm. (Jurassic-Cretaceous) Poços de Caldas intrusive complex (Cretaceous) |
| ADL-Águas de Lindóia(SP) | 22°28'36"S | 46°38'00" W | 945 | Lindália (spr)/LIN | Paraná | fractures | granites, gneisses, migmatites, schists, quartzites, limestones, dolomites | Amparo Gp. (Lower Proterozoic) |
| TEI-Termas de Ibirá (SP) | 21°04'50"S | 49°14'25" W | 455 | Jorrante (spr)/JOR Ademar de Barros (spr)/ADB Carlos Gomes (spr)/CGO Saracura (spr)/SRC Seixas (spr)/SEI | Paraná | porous and fractures | sandstones basalts | Bauru Gp. (Cretaceous) Serra Geral Fm. (Jurassic-Cretaceous) |
| SLO-São Lourenço (MG) | 22°06'59"S | 45°03'16" W | 875 | No. 1-Oriente (spr)/SL1 No. 9-Carbogasosa (spr)/SL9 | Southeastern shield | porous and fractures | ortogneisses, granulites migmatites, metasedimentary/ metavulcanosedimentary seq. | Paraíba do Sul, Barbacena, São João d'el Rei and Andrelândia Groups (Proterozoic), magmatic plutonic series (Brasiliano) |
| CAM-Cambuquira (MG) CAX-Caxambu (MG) | 21°52'13"S 21°58'10"S | 45°19'03" W 44°55'30" W | 950 895 | Marimbeiro (spr)/MAR Beleza (spr)/BZA | Southeastern shield | Fractures | alkaline rocks, phonolites, nepheline syenites, pyroclastics, volcanic tuffs | Poços de Caldas intrusive complex (Cretaceous) |
| PDC-Poços de Caldas (MG) | 21°47'18"S | 46°33'45" W | 1196 | XV de Novembro (spr)/NOV Macacos (spr)/MAC Sinhazinha (spr)/SIN Pedro Botelho (spr)/PEB | Southeastern shield | Fractures | alkaline rocks, phonolites, nepheline syenites, pyroclastics, volcanic tuffs | Poços de Caldas intrusive complex (Cretaceous) |
| PRV-Pocinhos do Rio Verde (MG) | 21°55'20"S | 46°23'20" W | 1055 | Rio Verde (spr)/RIV Samaritana (spr)/SMA São José (spr)/SJO | Southeastern shield | porous and Fractures | quartzites, schists, alkaline- carbonatitic rocks | Cretaceous, PreCambrian |
| AXA-Araxá (MG) | 19°35'33"S | 46°56'26" W | 973 | Dona Beja (spr)/DBJ Andrade Júnior (spr)/AJU | Southeastern shield | porous and Fractures | quartzites, schists, alkaline- carbonatitic rocks | Cretaceous, PreCambrian |

¹SP = São Paulo State, MG = Minas Gerais State; ²According to Mente (2008).

Table 2. Physicochemical and major hydrochemical data of the water sources focused in this study.

| Sample code | D ($\times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$) | Temp. ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) | pH | Eh (mV) | EC ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) | DO (mg/L) | CO ₂ (mg/L) | H ₂ S ($\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$) | ALK (mg/L) | SiO ₂ (mg/L) | Fe _{tot} (mg/L) | Fe ²⁺ (mg/L) | TDS (mg/L) | W (ton/yr) |
|-------------|---|------------------------------|-----|---------|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---|------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| GIO | 4051 | 27.4 | 8.4 | -59 | 3790 | 5.1 | 100 | 6 | 204 | 12.8 | 0.01 | b.d. | 1700 | 217.2 |
| JUV | 3472 | 26.7 | 8.6 | -59 | 4730 | 2.8 | 88 | 3064 | 338 | 24.5 | 0.7 | b.d. | 1960 | 214.6 |
| PLA | 236 | 25.4 | 8.2 | -5 | 1530 | 1.3 | 400 | 5 | 472 | 33.1 | 0.01 | b.d. | 936 | 7.0 |
| POL | 1756 | 25.8 | 8.2 | -37 | 3630 | 3.1 | 800 | 12 | 1390 | 29.0 | 0.02 | b.d. | 2625 | 145.4 |
| VIT | 22 | 24.5 | 9.2 | -150 | 3370 | 1.3 | 1032 | 2 | 1388 | 32.8 | 0.06 | b.d. | 1042 | 0.7 |
| BOI | 33 | 24.2 | 7.6 | -154 | 40 | 3.8 | 128 | 4 | 17 | 18.6 | 0.2 | 0.01 | 54 | 0.06 |
| LIN | 3889 | 24.6 | 7.0 | -3 | 360 | 5.7 | 136 | 4 | 76 | 37.5 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 86 | 10.6 |
| JOR | n.a. | 26.8 | 9.0 | -144 | 660 | 2.0 | 0 | 13 | 99 | 34.3 | 0.01 | b.d. | 410 | n.c. |
| ADB | n.a. | 28.4 | 9.0 | -145 | 670 | 2.6 | 0 | 3 | 130 | 32.4 | 0.01 | b.d. | 420 | n.c. |
| CGO | 1389 | 28.4 | 9.1 | -147 | 680 | 1.3 | 0 | 5 | 98 | 34.6 | 0.05 | b.d. | 380 | 16.6 |
| SRC | n.a. | 28.7 | 9.2 | -150 | 700 | 1.0 | 0 | 35 | 90 | 33.4 | b.d. | b.d. | 460 | n.c. |
| SEI | n.a. | 26.4 | 9.0 | -138 | 640 | 2.4 | 0 | 8 | 105 | 37.3 | b.d. | b.d. | 455 | n.c. |
| SL1 | 2778 | 25.6 | 6.0 | -44 | 670 | 1.3 | 1420 | b.d. | 163 | 17.9 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 296 | 25.9 |
| SL9 | 419 | 23.9 | 5.9 | -57 | 640 | 1.0 | 1480 | b.d. | 162 | 21.3 | 3.7 | 0.04 | 295 | 3.9 |
| MAR | 102 | 25.5 | 5.8 | -42 | 570 | 3.3 | 1200 | 4 | 130 | 60.9 | 2.3 | 0.02 | 249 | 0.8 |
| BZA | 21 | 23.9 | 6.4 | -65 | 3010 | 1.8 | 1440 | 1 | 680 | 60.2 | 3.2 | 2.9 | 757 | 0.5 |
| NOV | 118 | 25.7 | 9.4 | -53 | 920 | 1.4 | 0 | 259 | 196 | 28.4 | 0.04 | b.d. | 398 | 1.5 |
| MAC | n.a. | 32.1 | 9.6 | -51 | 1450 | 0.8 | 0 | 1184 | 233 | 31.0 | 0.01 | b.d. | 579 | n.c. |
| SIN | 6 | 25.7 | 9.5 | -90 | 1420 | 2.9 | 140 | 3 | 261 | 32.2 | 0.02 | b.d. | 574 | 0.1 |
| PEB | 694 | 35.7 | 9.6 | -70 | 1400 | 1.2 | 0 | 383 | 252 | 28.5 | 0.06 | b.d. | 600 | 13.1 |
| RIV | 67 | 23.3 | 9.1 | -133 | 1290 | 1.3 | 180 | 756 | 270 | 30.5 | 0.02 | b.d. | 567 | 1.2 |
| SMA | 67 | 23.9 | 9.0 | -133 | 1300 | 1.4 | 80 | 522 | 291 | 28.3 | b.d. | b.d. | 773 | 1.6 |
| SJO | 75 | 22.0 | 9.0 | -133 | 1290 | 1.3 | 60 | 528 | 318 | 29.3 | b.d. | b.d. | 424 | 1.0 |
| DBJ | 12537 | 22.1 | 7.5 | -146 | 330 | 5.0 | 252 | 1 | 112 | 23.4 | 0.06 | b.d. | 70 | 27.7 |
| AJU | 1111 | 29.0 | 9.6 | -141 | 6390 | 1.6 | 0 | 1980 | 2212 | 20.3 | 0.04 | b.d. | 2898 | 101.5 |

| Sample code | Na ⁺ (mg/L) | K ⁺ (mg/L) | Ca ²⁺ (mg/L) | Mg ²⁺ (mg/L) | HCO ₃ ⁻ (mg/L) | CO ₃ ²⁻ (mg/L) | OH ⁻ (mg/L) | Cl ⁻ (mg/L) | F ⁻ (mg/L) | NO ₃ ⁻ (mg/L) | SO ₄ ²⁻ (mg/L) | PO ₄ ³⁻ (mg/L) |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| GIO | 459.0 | 1.9 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 204 | 0 | 0 | 27.0 | 7.1 | 0.9 | 225 | 0.06 |
| JUV | 598.0 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 0.08 | 338 | 0 | 0 | 28.4 | 8.3 | 11.2 | 126 | 0.08 |
| PLA | 200.0 | 4.0 | 0.04 | 0.98 | 472 | 0 | 0 | 10.2 | 19.7 | 8.5 | 37 | 0.2 |
| POL | 532.0 | 9.8 | 0.02 | 1.0 | 1390 | 0 | 0 | 16.9 | 32.4 | 1.2 | 90 | 0.2 |
| VIT | 567.0 | 13.1 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1134 | 254 | 0 | 23.5 | 18.4 | 6.6 | 111 | 0.09 |
| BOI | 1.9 | 8.3 | 0.06 | 0.7 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 24.5 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 11 | 0.05 |
| LIN | 15.7 | 4.0 | 0.02 | 0.6 | 76 | 0 | 0 | 9.3 | 0.4 | 8.7 | 11 | 0.5 |
| JOR | 87.8 | 0.4 | 2.3 | b.d. | 0 | 82 | 17 | 7.8 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 78 | 0.1 |
| ADB | 87.4 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 0.01 | 0 | 106 | 24 | 7.0 | 0.4 | 2.6 | 52 | 0.2 |
| CGO | 91.4 | 0.4 | 2.7 | 0.01 | 0 | 52 | 46 | 7.9 | 0.4 | 1.7 | 67 | 0.3 |
| SRC | 91.8 | 0.3 | 2.5 | 0.01 | 0 | 22 | 68 | 7.7 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 74 | 0.2 |
| SEI | 83.5 | 0.3 | 2.4 | 0.01 | 0 | 58 | 47 | 7.0 | 0.5 | 2.9 | 63 | 0.06 |
| SL1 | 33.7 | 17.2 | 3.4 | 0.2 | 163 | 0 | 0 | 12.8 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 3 | 0.09 |
| SL9 | 35.2 | 17.5 | 3.5 | 0.4 | 162 | 0 | 0 | 8.0 | 0.9 | b.d. | 3 | 0.07 |
| MAR | 14.9 | 13.0 | 3.3 | 0.5 | 130 | 0 | 0 | 2.5 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 4 | 0.2 |
| BZA | 108.8 | 25.2 | 5.0 | 0.4 | 680 | 0 | 0 | 5.6 | 2.3 | 18.1 | 4 | 0.1 |
| NOV | 112.9 | 6.9 | 0.6 | 0.02 | 70 | 126 | 0 | 4.6 | 13.6 | 11.1 | 41 | 0.08 |
| MAC | 183.0 | 10.4 | 0.5 | 0.03 | 0 | 150 | 83 | 6.0 | 22.2 | 3.3 | 76 | 0.1 |
| SIN | 180.0 | 9.6 | 0.7 | 0.03 | 31 | 230 | 0 | 5.8 | 23.0 | 1.0 | 73 | 0.09 |
| PEB | 183.0 | 11.1 | 0.7 | 0.04 | 4 | 248 | 0 | 5.7 | 22.2 | 1.9 | 75 | 0.1 |
| RIV | 182.0 | 9.3 | 2.1 | 0.01 | 86 | 184 | 0 | 7.9 | 25.2 | 1.0 | 76 | 0.2 |
| SMA | 182.7 | 10.5 | 2.3 | 0.02 | 123 | 168 | 0 | 7.5 | 26.4 | 1.0 | 78 | 0.05 |
| SJO | 178.0 | 10.6 | 2.4 | 0.02 | 142 | 176 | 0 | 7.3 | 26.0 | 1.3 | 78 | 0.07 |
| DBJ | 2.1 | 8.8 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 112 | 0 | 0 | 2.1 | 0.3 | 5.3 | 3 | 0.3 |
| AJU | 1510.0 | 14.9 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 52 | 2160 | 0 | 48.0 | 9.0 | 2.3 | 189 | 1.4 |

D = discharge; EC = Electrical Conductivity; DO = Dissolved Oxygen; ALK = Total Alkalinity; TDS = Total Dissolved Solids; W=D×C (D=discharge; C=TDS concentration); n.a.= not available; b.d. = below detection limit; n.c.= not calculated.

Table 3. Stable isotopes (H, O, S) data of the spas groundwaters analyzed in this study.

| Sample code | $\delta^2\text{H}$ | $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ | $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ | $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| | V-SMOW (‰) | V-SMOW (‰) | V-CDT(‰) | V-SMOW (‰) |
| GIO | -35.5 | -5.7 | +23.6 | +16.9 |
| JUV | -31.7 | -5.3 | +26.9 | +12.6 |
| PLA | -57.1 | -8.9 | +8.0 | +18.8 |
| POL | -58.0 | -8.9 | +7.9 | +14.5 |
| VIT | -46.4 | -7.3 | +12.1 | +9.1 |
| BOI | -48.0 ³ | -7.7 ³ | +3.0 | +2.3 |
| LIN | -47.7 ⁴ | -7.7 ⁴ | +9.6 | +11.8 |
| JOR | -64.9 | -9.7 | +9.6 | +16.3 |
| ADB | -63.4 | -9.4 | +9.1 | +20.6 |
| CGO | -63.9 | -9.5 | +9.2 | +17.6 |
| SRC | -64.9 | -9.6 | +9.2 | +16.7 |
| SEI | -64.9 | -9.7 | +9.2 | +18.4 |
| SL1 | -55.9 | -8.9 | +3.6 | +6.9 |
| SL9 | -49.7 | -7.6 | +8.7 | +8.4 |
| MAR | -51.9 | -8.0 | +7.3 | +6.2 |
| BZA | -66.5 | -10.3 | +2.5 | +2.6 |
| NOV | -58.2 | -9.0 | +6.6 | +7.2 |
| MAC | -63.8 | -9.7 | +7.3 | +6.0 |
| SIN | -53.7 | -7.8 | +8.3 | +6.7 |
| PEB | -65.2 | -10.1 | +7.5 | +12.6 |
| RIV | -63.2 | -9.7 | +7.9 | +13.9 |
| SMA | -63.1 | -9.9 | +7.5 | +13.3 |
| SJO | -62.7 | -9.8 | +8.5 | +12.0 |
| DBJ | -48.8 | -7.5 | +5.0 | +3.4 |
| AJU | -64.0 | -14.1 | +5.0 | +8.1 |
| SOX ¹ | | | +1.0 | +1.0 |
| OSW ² | | | +9.0 | +21.0 |

¹SOX = Sulfide Oxidation (Van Stempvoort and Krouse, 1994);

²OSW = Opposite of the Sea Water (Fritz and Fontes, 1980; Krouse and Van Everdingen, 1986; Van Stempvoort and Krouse, 1994);

³Mean of the values reported by Szikszay (1981);

⁴Reported by Yoshinaga (1990).

FIGURE CAPTIONS

Figure 1. Spatial distribution in Brazil of the spas where groundwater samples were collected and its relation with outcropping aquifer systems. Spas codes: 1-ASP (Águas de São Pedro); 2-ADP (Águas da Prata); 3-PDC (Poços de Caldas); 4-PRV (Pocinhos do Rio Verde); 5-ADL (Águas de Lindóia); 6-SLO (São Lourenço); 7-CAX (Caxambu); 8-CAM (Cambuquira); 9-AXA (Araxá); 10-TEI (Termas de Ibirá). Base map modified from ANA (2014).

Figure 2. Data of the spas groundwaters of this study plotted (top) in an Eh-pH diagram as reported by Krauskopf and Bird (1995), and (bottom) in a Piper (1944) diagram including the presence of the anion fluoride.

Figure 3. The relationships among the pH, TDS, dissolved sulfate concentration, TDS removal rate (W), $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ data (Tables 2 and 3) of the spas groundwaters.

Figure 4. The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ data (Table 3) in the spas groundwaters plotted in the simplified diagram proposed by Van Stempvoort and Krouse (1994). The field A corresponds to the experimental area of sulfates derived by sulfide oxidation. Its upper boundary represents 63% of oxygen incorporation into SO_4 from H_2O , whereas the lower boundary represents the maximum 100% contribution of oxygen in SO_4 from H_2O , assuming no isotopic fractionation during oxygen incorporation from H_2O into SO_4 (Van Stempvoort and Krouse, 1994).

Figure 5. (Top) The regional meteoric waterline (RMWL: $\delta^2\text{H V-SMOW} (\text{‰}) = 8.06 \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water V-SMOW}} (\text{‰}) + 12.85$) plotted from $\delta^2\text{H}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values in circa 700 rainwater samples collected in São Paulo State and Brasília airport, Brazil. Data source: Szikszay (1981), Silva (1983), Soler i Gil and Bonotto (2015), IAEA (2017). (Bottom) The $\delta^2\text{H}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ data for the spas groundwaters (Table 3) plotted together with the global meteoric water line (GMWL) and regional meteoric waterline (RMWL).

Figure 6. Plots of the $\delta^2\text{H}$ *versus* $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ data against the spas altitude. The Pearson correlation coefficient is $r=0.16$ and $r=0.22$ for the $\delta^2\text{H}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{water}}$ values, respectively.

Figure 7. Possible evolutionary/mixing trends evidenced by the $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sulfate}}$ and $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfate}}$ data (Table 3) of the spas groundwaters.

Figure 8. Plots of the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ dissolved sulfate data (Table 3) of the spas groundwaters in mixing models for identifying possible sulfate sources.

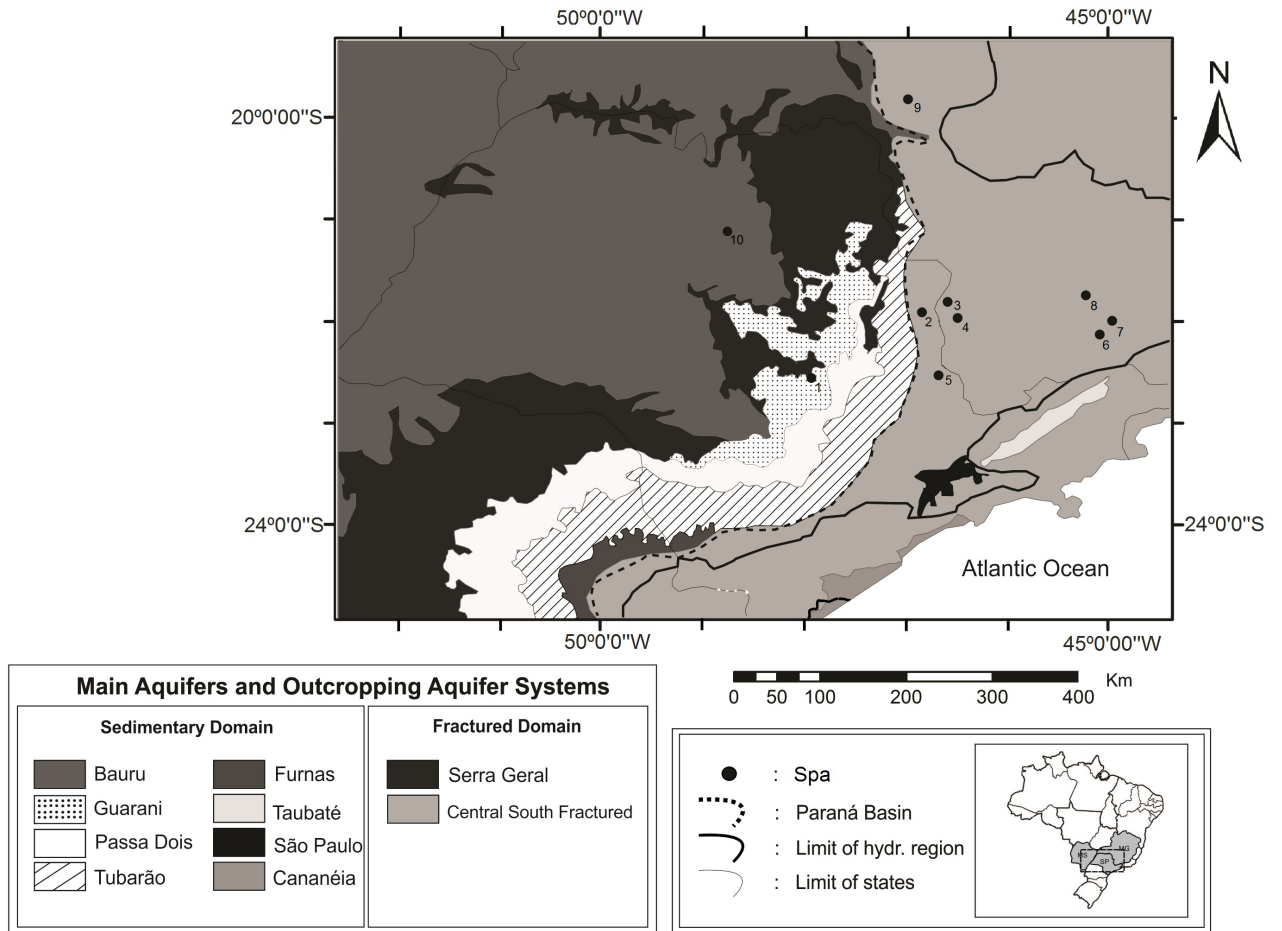


FIG. 1

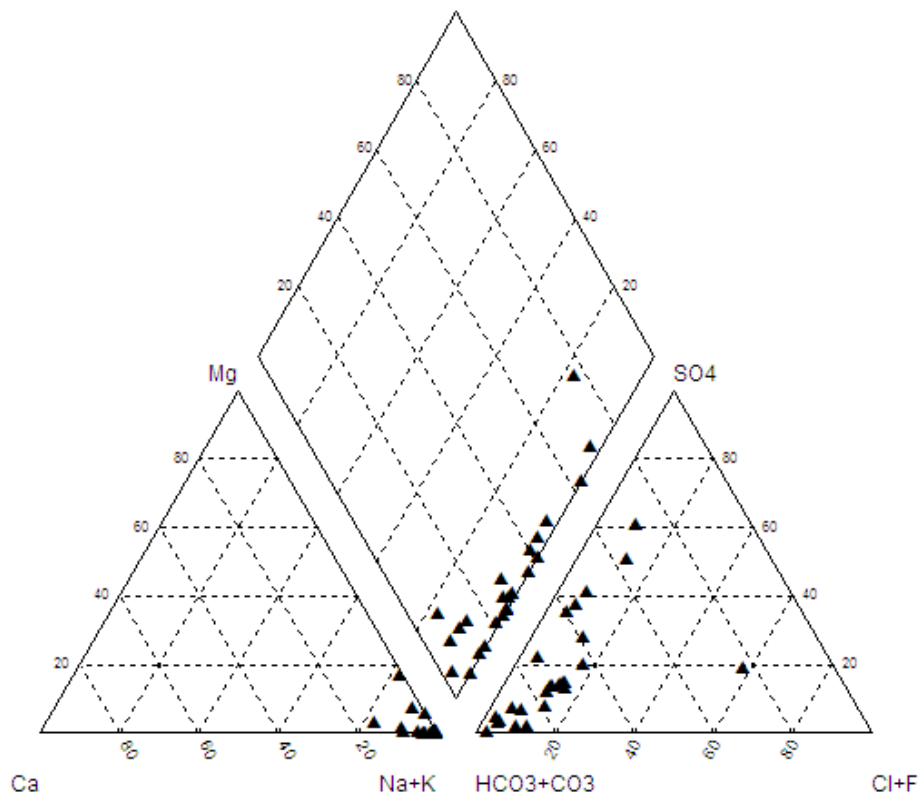
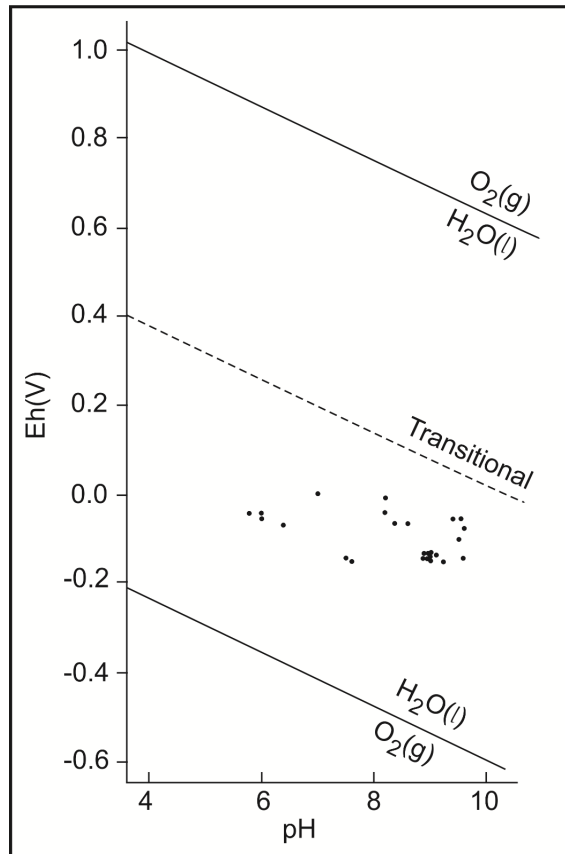


FIG. 2

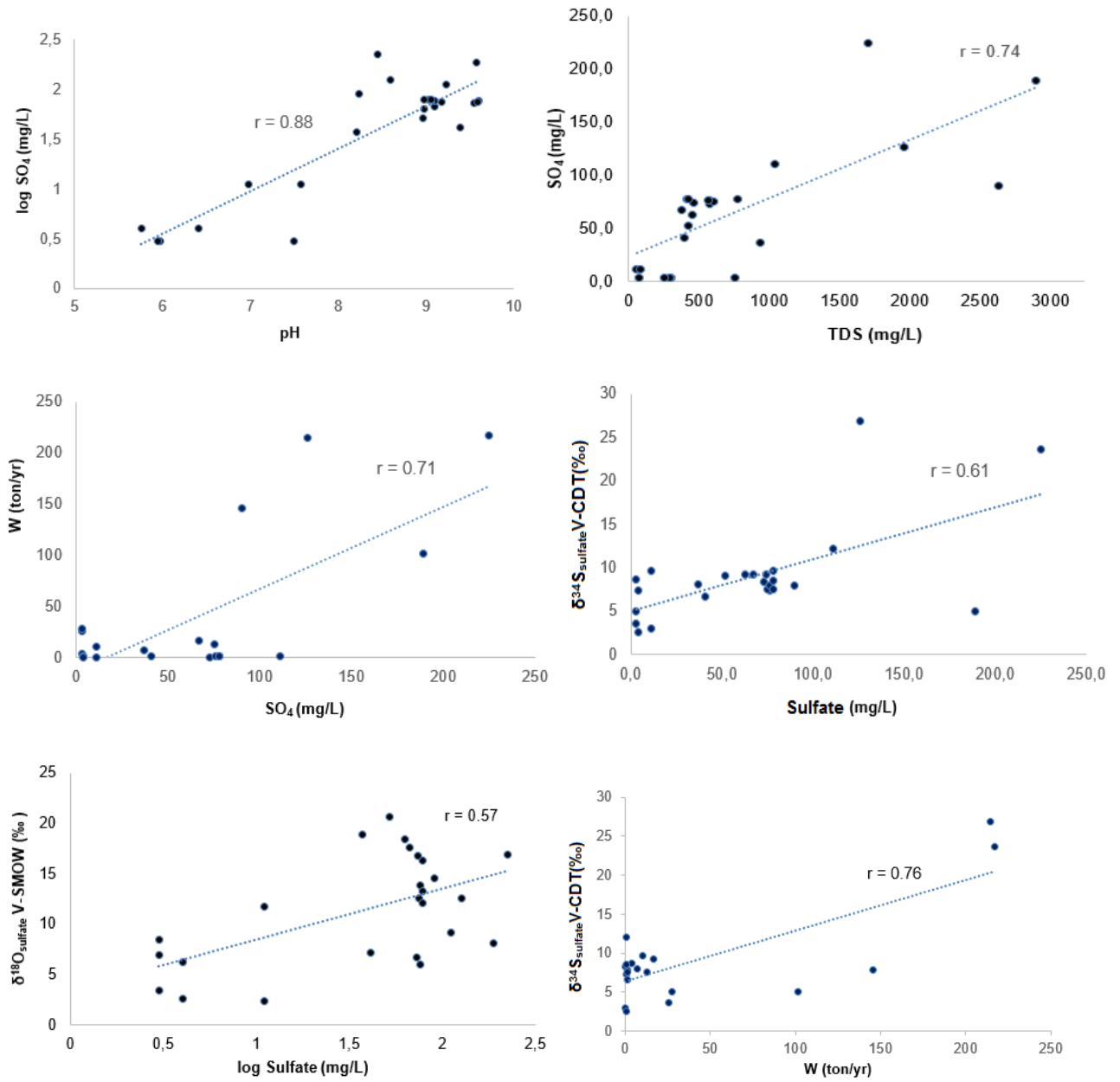


FIG. 3

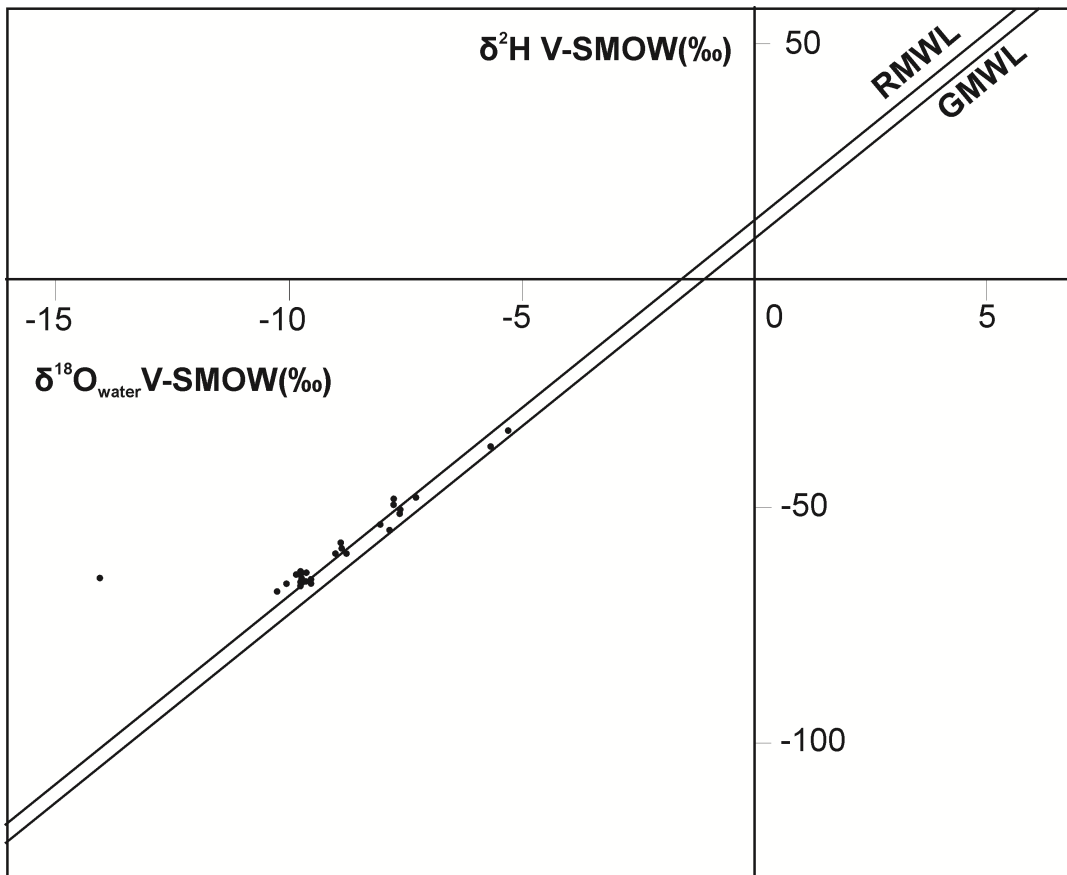
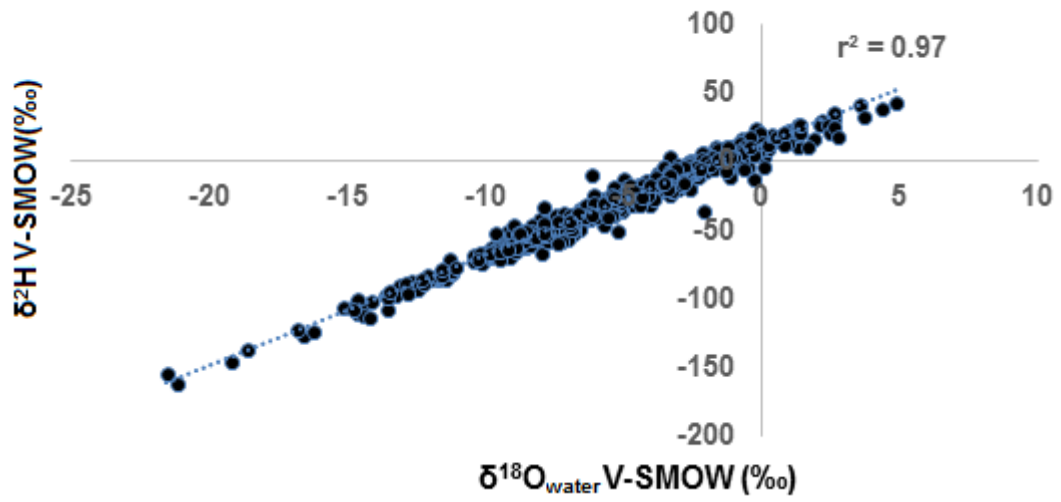


FIG. 5

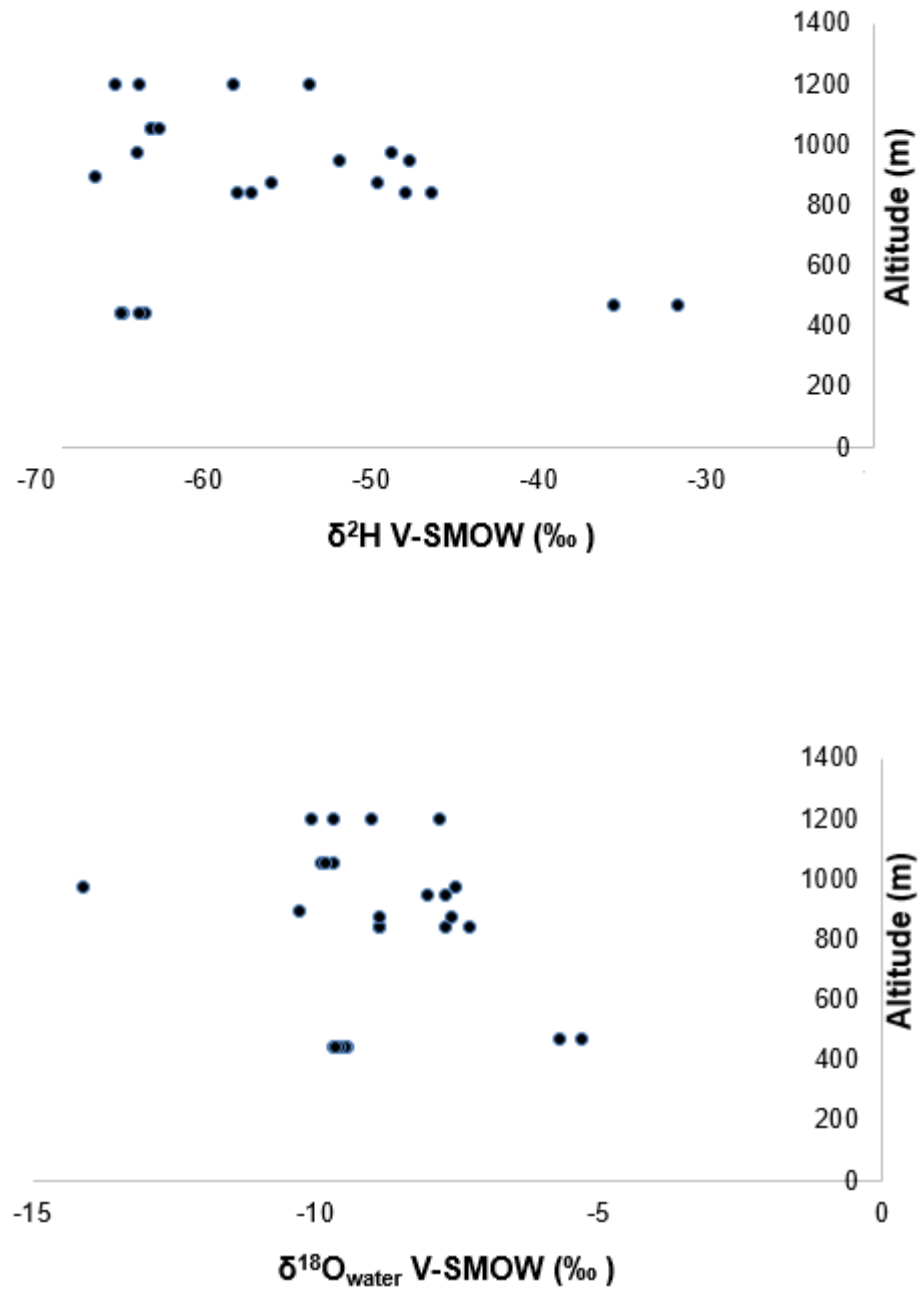


FIG. 6

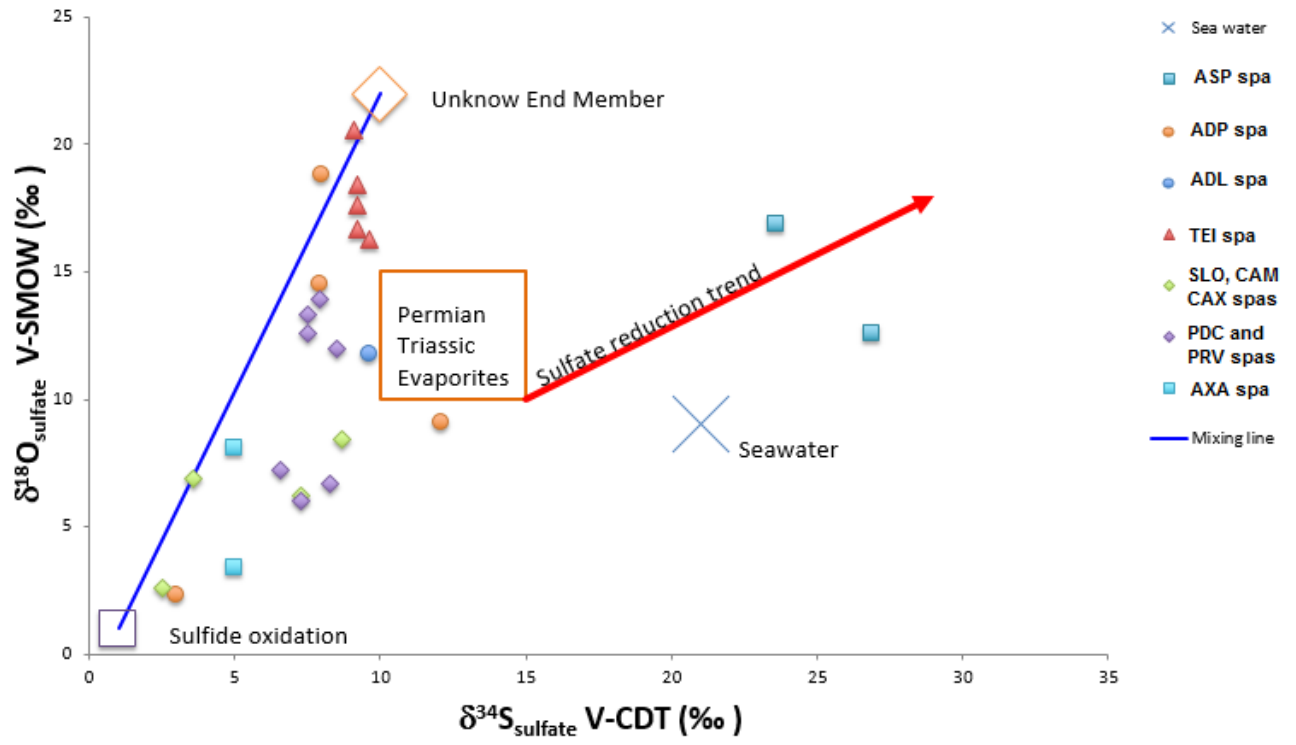


FIG. 7

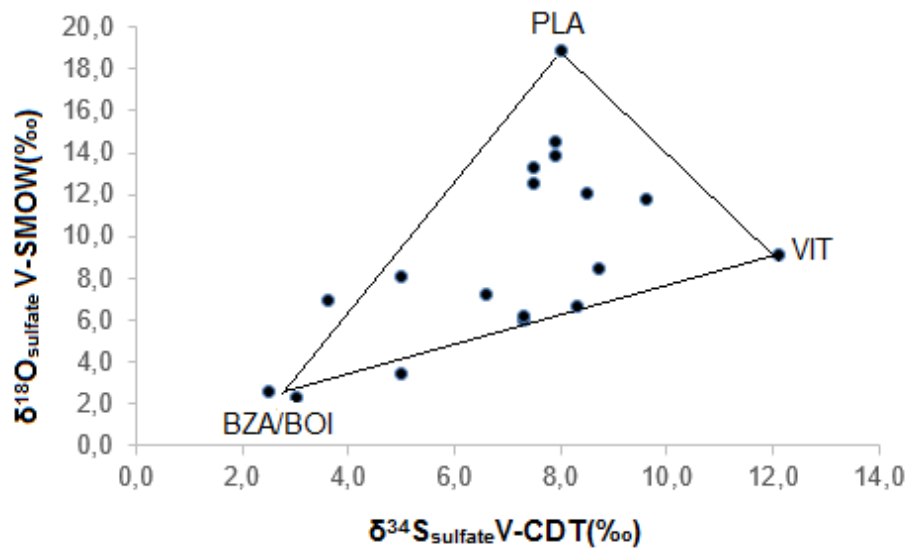
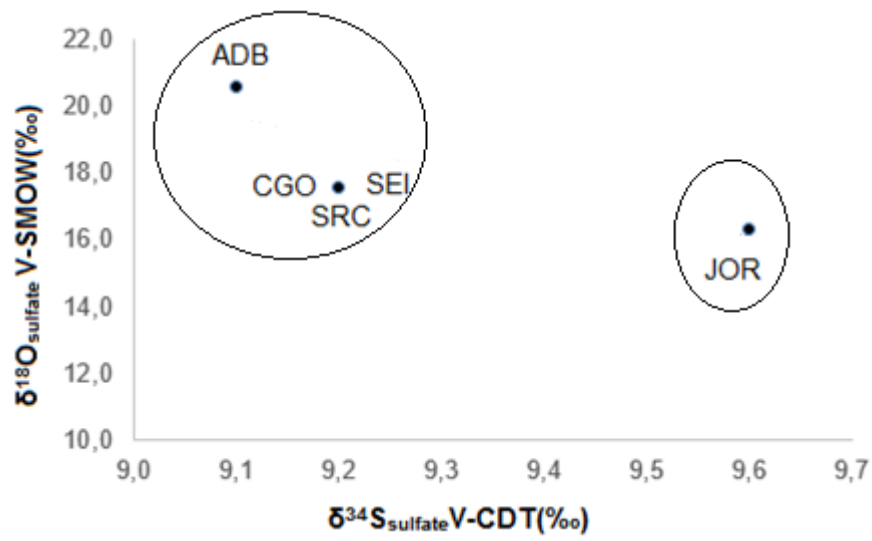
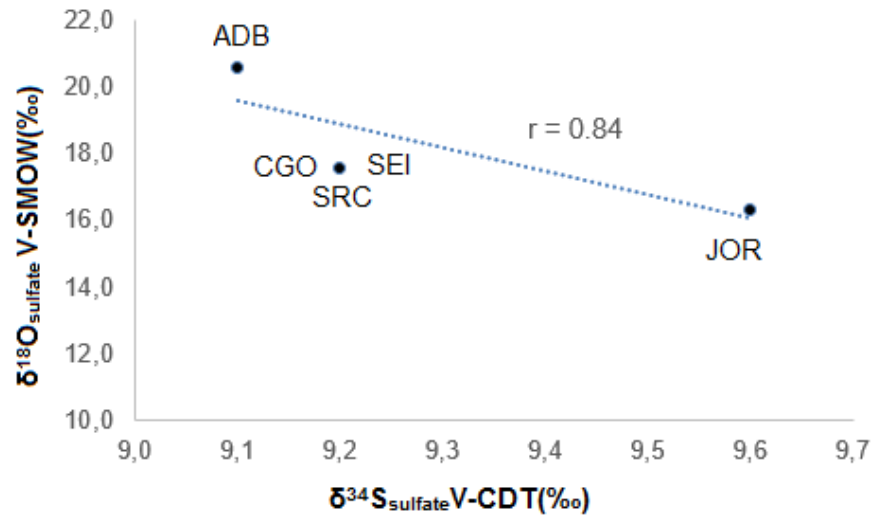


FIG. 8