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Equilibrated gas and carbonate standard-derived paired clumped isotope ($\Delta 47$ and $\Delta 48$) values on the absolute reference frame

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2 **Δ_{48}) values on the absolute reference frame**

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4 *Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry*

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14
15 *Running Head: Robust Methods for Paired Carbonate Clumped Isotope Analysis (Δ_{47}*
16 *and Δ_{48}) via IRMS*

17
18 **Rationale:** Carbonate clumped isotope geochemistry has primarily focused on mass
19 spectrometric determination of m/z 47 CO₂ for geothermometry, but theoretical
20 calculations and recent experiments indicate paired analysis of the m/z 47 (¹³C¹⁸O¹⁶O)
21 and m/z 48 (¹²C¹⁸O¹⁸O) isotopologues (referred to as Δ_{47} and Δ_{48}) can be used to study
22 non-equilibrium isotope fractionations and refine temperature estimates. We utilize a
23 multi-year and multi-instrument dataset to constrain Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for 27 samples,
24 including standards and Devils Hole cave calcite, and study equilibrium Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} , Δ_{47} -
25 temperature, and Δ_{48} -temperature relationships.

26 **Methods:** A total of 5,465 Δ_{47} and 3,400 Δ_{48} measurements of carbonates, and 183 Δ_{47}
27 and 195 Δ_{48} measurements of gas standards from 2015-2021 from multiple mass
28 spectrometers were used. We compare results to previously published findings.

29 **Results:** We report Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for 27 carbonates. We provide further
30 experimental constraints on the equilibrium relationship between Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} . We report
31 Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} relationships with temperature using a combination of theory and
32 experimental regression-form acid digestion fractionation factors, Δ^*_{63-47} and Δ^*_{64-48} .

33 **Conclusions:** This large dataset provides Δ_{48} values of carbonate standards for use in
34 carbonate standard-based standardization. A robust Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} equilibrium regression was
35 determined with data presented here and from previously published datasets.

36 Regressions for Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} relationships with temperature are also presented.

37
38
39
40 **1. INTRODUCTION**

41
42 Equilibrium constants for internal isotope exchange reactions in carbonate
43 minerals are directly related to their formation temperature.^{1,2} This temperature
44 dependence is the basis for carbonate clumped isotope thermometry, a tool for
45 paleotemperature reconstruction in the geosciences. For minerals that form in isotopic
46 equilibrium, the frequency with which rare, heavy isotopes in carbonate minerals are
47 bonded to each other (instead of bonded to much more common light isotopes) relative
48 to a stochastic (random) distribution is proportional to precipitation temperature.

49 There are multiple clumped isotopologues containing paired heavy isotopes in
50 carbonate minerals that can potentially be used for geothermometry. The abundance of
51 the dominant m/z 63 isotopologue ($^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}_2$) forms the basis of the most widely used
52 thermometer. The acid digestion of minerals containing carbonate ion groups with m/z
53 of 63 yields m/z 47 CO_2 , which can then be measured by isotope ratio mass
54 spectrometry.¹ Theory predicted that the lower abundance m/z 48 CO_2 isotopologue
55 derived from acid digestion of m/z 64 ($^{12}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}_2^{16}\text{O}$) carbonate ion groups in equilibrium
56 precipitates could be used for geothermometry^{1,3-6} and this has recently been
57 confirmed through experimentation.⁷⁻¹⁰

58 The abundance of the $^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{16}\text{O}$ and $^{12}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$ isotopologues is denoted with
59 Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} notation.¹¹ These are defined as:

60
61
$$\Delta_{47} = [(R_{47\text{sample}}/R_{47\text{stochastic}} - 1)] \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

62
63
$$\Delta_{48} = (R_{48\text{sample}}/R_{48\text{stochastic}} - 1) \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

64
65 where $R_{i\text{sample}}$ is the measured ratio of $i/44$ CO_2 isotopologues in the sample, $R_{i\text{stochastic}}$
66 is the ratio of $i/44$ CO_2 isotopologues that would be expected in a random distribution,
67 and Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values are typically multiplied by a factor of 1000 and given in permil
68 (‰).^{2,12} The most abundant m/z 48 CO_2 isotopologue ($^{12}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$) has two ^{18}O
69 substitutions and is therefore in extremely low abundance at 4.1 ppm in air, which is an
70 order of magnitude lower than m/z 47 isotopologues (45 ppm).¹ The minor m/z 48 CO_2
71 isotopologue ($^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}^{17}\text{O}$) has an abundance of 16.7 ppb.¹

72 The precise measurement of Δ_{47} was enabled by modification of the Thermo
73 MAT 253, specially configured with m/z 47-49 Faraday cups and digestion and
74 purification methods for carbonate minerals.^{1,11} On this instrument, m/z 48
75 isotopologues were used only to screen for contaminants. Measurements of Δ_{48} have
76 recently emerged as a tool for the study of equilibrium and kinetic isotope effects due to
77 the use of $10^{13} \Omega$ resistors for m/z 47-49 Faraday cups in the Thermo MAT 253 Plus⁷⁻¹⁰,
78 and secondary electron suppression in the Nu Perspective IS. These advances
79 contribute to increased accuracy and precision for determination of Δ_{48} values, and
80 paired Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values on the absolute reference frame.

81 A unique attribute of carbonate clumped isotope thermometry based on Δ_{47} or
82 Δ_{48} is that it does not depend on the bulk oxygen isotope composition ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$) of the
83 water the carbonate precipitated from¹, unlike the more widely used oxygen isotope

84 thermometer¹³. Δ_{47} measurements have been used for the reconstruction of numerous
85 paleo-environmental parameters, including but not limited to land¹⁴ and ocean^{5,15}
86 paleotemperatures, paleoelevation^{16,17}, and dinosaur body temperature¹⁸, while
87 simultaneously estimating water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$. Previous research has shown that kinetic isotope
88 effects observed in abiotic and biogenic carbonates, including speleothems^{19,20} and
89 coral^{8,21–23}, may affect the accuracy of Δ_{47} -based temperature reconstructions. However,
90 the paired analysis of Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} has been shown by theory^{2,4,5,24,25} and
91 experimentation^{7–10} to have a characteristic equilibrium relationship to temperature
92 which may be used to identify and study kinetic effects in carbonates, if sufficiently
93 accurate and precise measurements can be made.

94 Several studies have proposed the use of new methods to advance the
95 consistency of measurements between laboratories and have improved the accuracy
96 and precision of Δ_{47} determinations by mass spectrometry. Interlaboratory
97 reproducibility of Δ_{47} values was advanced by using accurately determined carbonate
98 standard values that are anchored to the absolute reference frame, using a reference
99 frame constructed using primary gas standards, secondary carbonate standards, or a
100 mixture of gas and carbonate standards, detailed by Dennis et al.²⁶, allowing for
101 interlaboratory standardization. Recent work from Bernasconi et al.²⁷ has proposed
102 nominal carbonate standard Δ_{47} values and the use of carbonate standards for
103 standardization in the 90 °C reference frame. These advances form the foundation for
104 assessing whether carbonate standardization can be used to yield Δ_{48} values, and
105 paired Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values, on the absolute reference frame that are intercomparable
106 between instruments.

107 Here, we utilize large datasets collected over multiple years on multiple
108 instruments for this purpose. Due to the low abundance of m/z 48 CO_2 isotopologues
109 and potential for analytical error, the development of robust standard values is critical in
110 ensuring accurate determination of unknown sample Δ_{48} values. Given the size of the
111 dataset and the use of multiple instruments, we assessed if there were standardized
112 methods of outlier analysis. In the literature, for outlier identification, one group of
113 publications used outlier tests. Zaarur et al.²⁸ used a Peirce outlier test to identify and
114 remove replicate Δ_{47} , $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, and $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values that were statistical outliers, resulting in the
115 exclusion of ~2% of data. They report this affected Δ_{47} in the third decimal place.
116 Burgener et al.²⁹ used this same test to determine one sample Δ_{47} value was an outlier
117 relative to the other samples in the dataset. Peral et al.³⁰ used Grubbs' outlier test to
118 show that a Δ_{47} value for a foraminifera sample was an outlier when compared to the
119 rest of their sample set. A second group of publications have used absolute deviations
120 from mean values as cutoffs. Meckler et al.³¹ excluded standard replicates with an offset
121 greater than ± 0.03 ‰ from the mean value in each run. Upadhyay et al.³² excluded
122 replicates with an offset greater than ± 0.075 ‰ from the mean value. A third group of
123 publications uses ancillary data. Tripathi et al.⁵ used Δ_{48} values of > 1 per mil (Δ_{48}
124 excess) to be potentially indicative of contamination, and screened data if replicate level
125 $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ or $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values differed from the population mean by more than 3σ . Tripathi et al.³³

126 used Δ_{48} excess, and also used a Q-test (which identifies outliers at a 5σ level), for data
127 quality assurance. Bernasconi et al.²⁷ worked with data that was provided by
128 laboratories, based on each laboratory's own criteria for quality assurance to produce
129 publication-grade results.

130 Here, we used both equilibrated gas and carbonate-based standardization to
131 report the isotopic composition of 27 carbonates, including standards and 4 Devils Hole
132 calcite samples^{34,35}, determined on different mass spectrometer configurations over
133 multiple years. We use this data and theory to explore clumped isotope equilibrium
134 relationships. We also report statistical methods for data processing of large datasets.
135 We compared use of a 3σ and 5σ cutoff for outlier exclusion. We determine regression-
136 form acid digestion fractionation factors for the phosphoric acid digestion of m/z 63 and
137 m/z 64 CO_3^{2-} to m/z 47 and m/z 48 CO_2 , respectively.

138 139 **2. METHODS**

140 141 **2.1 Carbonates analyzed**

142
143 In total, 27 different carbonates were analyzed for clumped and bulk isotope
144 compositions on mass spectrometers in the Triпати Lab at University of California, Los
145 Angeles. Table 1 contains a description of the mineralogy and origin of all carbonates,
146 modified from Upadhyay et al.³² These materials were chosen for analysis because
147 many of them are standards used widely among clumped isotope laboratories, such as
148 the ETH standards and Carrara Marble. Others are used commonly in a certain region
149 or country, such as ISTB-1, TB-1, and TB-2, which are clumped isotope standards from
150 the China University of Geosciences. Additionally, this suite of samples encompasses
151 numerous carbonate types, including biogenic materials, and carbonates of different
152 mineralogies. Some of the materials are presumed to have near equilibrium clumped
153 isotope values, such as Devils Hole mammillary calcite, ETH-1, and ETH-2. Many also
154 have a large number of analyses ($n > 50$) on one or multiple instruments that can be
155 used to provide robust standard values for Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} measurements on the absolute
156 reference frame.

157 158 **2.2 Devils Hole calcite**

159
160 We analyzed four Devils Hole (Amargosa Desert, Nevada) mammillary calcite
161 samples from core DH-2 for paired Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values, including DH-10 (172 ± 4 ka),
162 DH-11 (163 ± 5 ka), DH-12 (57 ± 5 ka), and DH-13 (151 ± 4 ka)³⁴, that previously were
163 measured for Δ_{47} in Triпати et al.⁵ The samples were re-analyzed on Nu Perspective
164 mass spectrometers. Devils Hole calcite is assumed to have precipitated near isotopic
165 equilibrium due to an extremely slow precipitation rate ($0.1\text{-}0.8 \mu\text{m year}^{-1}$) in water with

166 a low calcite saturation index (0.16-0.21).^{35,36} Devils Hole is thought to have had a
167 stable temperature of 33.7 (± 0.8) °C throughout the Holocene.³⁴⁻³⁷

168

169 **2.3 Instrumentation**

170

171 Standards and samples were analyzed on 3 mass spectrometers using 5
172 configurations (Table 2), including Nu Perspective-EG, Nu Perspective-1, Nu
173 Perspective-1a, Nu-Perspective-2, and MAT 253. Nu Perspective-EG, Nu Perspective-
174 1, and Nu Perspective-1a use the same mass spectrometer with differences in the acid
175 digestion system, ion beam intensity, and integration time. Nu Perspective-EG is the
176 only configuration that analyzed equilibrated gases. On both the MAT 253 and Nu
177 Perspective mass spectrometers, the detectors for m/z 44 through 46 are registered
178 through 3×10^8 , 3×10^{10} , and 10^{11} Ω resistors, respectively, while detectors for m/z 47
179 through 49 are registered with 10^{12} Ω resistors.

180 The most notable difference between Nu Instruments Perspective and the more
181 widely used older generation Thermo Fisher MAT 253 is the implementation in the
182 former of electrostatic analyzers (ESAs) before the m/z 47-49 detectors. These ESAs
183 consist of two curved plates with a voltage difference placed directly in front of each of
184 the Faraday collectors. The addition of the ESAs as well as ion lenses following the
185 magnetic sector of the flight tube removes secondary ion and electron signals from the
186 mass detection. This removal results in a drastic reduction in the interfering signals on
187 all masses (m/z 44-49) during operation, producing flatter and more stable baselines,
188 relative to the older MAT 253 (Figure S1). In addition, the lowered interference from
189 secondary electrons in the Nu Perspectives results in greater intensities and lowered
190 noise in the signals from the higher masses, especially m/z 48 and 49. This
191 advancement has contributed to a Δ_{47} non-linearity slope for the Nu Perspective
192 (median slope observed was -0.00005) that ranges from one to two orders of magnitude
193 less than the MAT 253 (median slope observed was -0.007), and a Δ_{48} non-linearity
194 slope for the Nu Perspective (median slope observed was -0.004) that is an order of
195 magnitude less than the MAT 253 (median slope observed was -0.013).

196 Nu Perspective-EG, Nu Perspective-1, Nu Perspective-1a, and MAT 253 use an
197 in-house constructed autosampler that is similar to the setup detailed in Passey et al.³⁸
198 The configuration uses a stainless steel Costech Zero Blank autosampler and a 105 %
199 phosphoric acid bath that digests calcium carbonate samples at 90 °C. The sample gas
200 passes through cryogenic purification traps that use dry ice-cooled ethanol and liquid
201 nitrogen to remove contaminant gases that have low vapor pressure, mostly consisting
202 of water vapor. The CO₂ gas then passes through elemental silver wool (Sigma-Aldrich)
203 to remove sulfur compounds, followed by a gas chromatograph (GC) column with
204 helium carrier gas that contains Porapak Type-Q™ 50/80 mesh column packing
205 material to remove organic compounds. The GC column is maintained at a constant

206 temperature of -20 °C during sample purification. Large samples weighing 4-7 mg are
207 analyzed on the MAT 253 in bellows with a total integration time of 720 s. Small
208 samples weighing 0.5 mg are analyzed in bellows on Nu Perspective-EG and Nu
209 Perspective-1 mass spectrometer (they use the same mass spectrometer) with 3 blocks
210 of 20 cycles, with a total integration time of 1600 s. Nu Perspective-1a also uses the
211 same mass spectrometer, but the sample and working gas volumes are depleted in
212 microvolume mode at precisely matched rates, with m/z 44 ranging from 80-30 nA
213 during sample acquisition, with an integration time of 1200 s. The sample preparation
214 system is operated by custom software in Labview that controls the sampler, GC
215 column, cryogenic dewar lifters, and valves. The Labview software is integrated with the
216 Perspective Stable Gas Control software interface that controls the Nu Perspective
217 mass spectrometer.

218 Nu Perspective-2 uses a Nu Carb Sample Digestion System instead of a
219 common acid bath, where 0.5 mg of calcium carbonate is reacted at 70 °C in individual
220 glass vials with 105 wt% phosphoric acid. The sample gas is cryogenically purified in
221 liquid nitrogen-cooled tubes called coldfingers before passing through a relatively short
222 GC column packed with Porapak Type-QTM 50/80 and silver wool. This instrument
223 operates under vacuum pressure and does not use a carrier gas. The sample and
224 working gas volumes are matched precisely during depletion into the mass
225 spectrometer, with m/z 44 ranging from 80-30 nA. Sample data is analyzed in 3 blocks
226 of 20 cycles, with each cycle integrating for 20 s, for a total integration time of 1200 s.

227

228 **2.4 Equilibrated gas standards**

229

230 We analyzed 195 equilibrated gas standards on a Nu Instruments Perspective
231 mass spectrometer, here called Nu Perspective-EG. We utilized two gases with differing
232 bulk isotope values, with a ~60 ‰ difference in δ_{47} values, prepared using standard
233 procedures^{1,26}. The heavy isotope depleted δ_{47} gas is from an Airgas CO₂ gas cylinder
234 and was equilibrated with 5-10 mL of 25 °C deionized (DI) water. The heavy isotope
235 enriched δ_{47} gas is produced by phosphoric acid digestion of a Carrara Marble
236 carbonate standard. The resulting carbon dioxide was equilibrated with evaporated DI
237 water held at 25 °C. Aliquots of the two 25 °C gases are re-equilibrated at 1000 °C by
238 heating the gases in quartz tubes inside a muffle furnace for >1 hour, and then flash
239 cooled, to produce gases with near stochastic Δ_{47} values.

240

241 **2.5 Data processing and normalization**

242

243 Raw data files from all instrument configurations were transferred into Easotope³⁹
244 (64-bit version from release 20201231), where corrections and final Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values
245 for replicates were calculated. All data used the IUPAC parameter set.^{40,41} Δ_{47} and Δ_{48}

246 data from Nu Perspective-EG is reported on the Carbon Dioxide Equilibrium Scale
247 (CDES 90; Dennis et al.²⁶), meaning it was normalized to CO₂ equilibrated at 25 °C and
248 1000 °C at an acid digestion temperature of 90 °C. Δ_{47} data from Nu Perspective-1, Nu
249 Perspective-2, and MAT 253 is reported on the InterCarb-Carbon Dioxide Equilibrium
250 Scale (I-CDES; Bernasconi et al.²⁷), meaning it was normalized to carbonate standards
251 including ETH-1, ETH-2, and ETH-3 at an acid digestion temperature of 90 °C. Note
252 that the I-CDES and CDES 90 reference frames should be equivalent if properly
253 standardized. Δ_{48} data for Nu Perspective-1, Nu Perspective-2, and MAT 253 are
254 reported on the CDES 90 scale, normalized to carbonate standards including ETH-1,
255 ETH-2, and ETH-3 at an acid digestion temperature of 90 °C. Since it currently is
256 convention to describe Δ_{48} values digested at 90 °C as CDES 90 whether they are
257 normalized to equilibrated CO₂ or carbonate standards, we want to note again that the
258 only instrument here that used equilibrated CO₂ normalization was Nu Perspective-EG,
259 while the others use exclusively carbonate standard based normalization.

260 Figure 1 contains a flow chart detailing the standards used in data normalization
261 for each instrument configuration. Methods detailed in Dennis et al. (2011) were used to
262 normalize data to the CDES 90 and I-CDES reference frames, including a nonlinearity
263 correction and transfer function (Figures 1, 2). We do not perform pressure baseline
264 corrections; however, a background correction is performed for all masses (m/z 44-49)
265 on all instruments before any further data normalization. The background is measured
266 (in amps on the Nu Perspective instruments; mV on the MAT 253) at the start of an
267 analysis and is subtracted from the measurement. For the nonlinearity slope correction,
268 a slope was determined over a 10-day moving average for the regression lines between
269 $\delta_{47 \text{ raw}}$ and $\Delta_{47 \text{ raw}}$, and $\delta_{48 \text{ raw}}$ and $\Delta_{48 \text{ raw}}$ values for CO₂ gas standards equilibrated at 25
270 °C and 1000 °C or ETH-1 and ETH-2 (Figure 2A, B, E, F). Nonlinearity slope corrections
271 are applied to all analyses using equations 3 and 4:
272

$$273 \Delta_{47 \text{ sc}} = \Delta_{47 \text{ raw}} - (m_{47} \times \delta_{47 \text{ raw}}) \quad \text{Equation 3}$$

$$274 \Delta_{48 \text{ sc}} = \Delta_{48 \text{ raw}} - (m_{48} \times \delta_{48 \text{ raw}}) \quad \text{Equation 4}$$

275 where $\Delta_{47 \text{ sc}}$ and $\Delta_{48 \text{ sc}}$ values are the nonlinearity slope-corrected values, and m_{47} and
276 m_{48} are the regression slopes, with nomenclature adapted from Fiebig et al.⁷ For the
277 transfer function, the 10-day moving average slope and intercept was determined for
278 the linear relationship between either theoretically calculated Δ_{47} values for 25 °C and
279 1000 °C, 0.925 ‰⁴² and 0.027 ‰²⁶, respectively, or carbonate standard values, and Δ_{47}
280 sc values (Fig. 2C, D, G, H). Where carbonate standards were used, Δ_{47} values
281 determined in Bernasconi et al.²⁷ of 0.2052 ‰, 0.2085 ‰, and 0.6132 ‰ were used as
282 standard values for ETH-1, ETH-2, and ETH-3, respectively. For Nu Perspective-2, the
283 additional standards Carmel Chalk and Veinstrom were used, with Δ_{47} values of 0.674
284
285

286 ‰ and 0.715 ‰, respectively. Before Carmel Chalk and Veinstrom were used in data
287 normalization, their long-term average values were determined on Nu Perspective-1
288 and MAT 253. For Δ_{48} , the 10-day moving average slope and intercept was determined
289 for the linear relationship between either theoretically calculated Δ_{48} values for 25 °C
290 and 1000 °C of 0.345 ‰⁴² and 0.000 ‰⁷, respectively, or carbonate standards, and Δ_{48}
291 _{sc}. Where carbonate standards were used, the Δ_{48} values determined on Nu
292 Perspective-EG for ETH-1, ETH-2, ETH-3, and Veinstrom (Table 3) were used for
293 standard values. The transfer function (TF) slope and intercept from these regressions
294 were used to create transfer functions, which are applied to all $\Delta_{47\text{ sc}}$ and $\Delta_{48\text{ sc}}$ values,
295 and yields the fully corrected values Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values using equations 5 and 6:
296

$$297 \Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES; CDES 90}} = \Delta_{47 \text{ sc}} \times \text{TF slope} + \text{TF intercept} \quad \text{Equation 5}$$

298

299

$$300 \Delta_{48 \text{ CDES 90}} = \Delta_{48 \text{ sc}} \times \text{TF slope} + \text{TF intercept} \quad \text{Equation 6}$$

301

302 where Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values are the fully corrected values in the I-CDES or CDES 90
303 reference frame, $\Delta_{47\text{ sc}}$ and $\Delta_{48\text{ sc}}$ values are the slope corrected values from equations 3
304 and 4, TF slope is the transfer function slope, and TF intercept is the transfer function
305 intercept.
306

307 **2.6 Use of statistical methods for robust determination of Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values**

308

309 We report a large historical dataset where many standards have >100 replicates.
310 To streamline data analyses and ensure all replicate data was handled identically, we
311 developed an R script that automated outlier identification, calculation of sample mean
312 values (replicate pool average), error (replicate pool error reported as ± 1 SE), and data
313 statistics. In the Appendix we provide a detailed description of this method for replicate-
314 level outlier identification and data pooling from multiple instruments. The R script is
315 publicly available for review at <https://github.com/Tripati-Lab/Lucarelli-et-al>. This method
316 is particularly useful for datasets with a large number of replicates where determining
317 outliers manually can be time intensive; it also helps reduce potential human bias. We
318 do not recommend this method for samples with less than 12 replicates, as this was the
319 smallest number of replicates we successfully tested the method on. In short, a density
320 function was determined for replicate level data for each sample on every instrumental
321 configuration after an initial removal of very large outliers (i.e., Δ_{47} or Δ_{48} values of <-0.5)
322 (Figure 3B). A 3σ or 5σ (3 standard deviations from the mean or 5 standard deviations
323 from the mean) cut was then made for each density function (Figure 3C). Then, the final
324 replicate pool for each sample was used to determine the average Δ_{47} , Δ_{48} , $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, and
325 $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values, SE, and normality of the data distribution. We note the error reported here

326 may not fully account for all error associated with transferring raw data into the final Δ_{47}
327 values, described as “allogenic” errors by Daëron (2021). These errors may play a
328 larger role for Δ_{48} given larger measurement uncertainties.

329 For data pooling between instrumental configurations, the Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} replicate
330 distributions for standards and samples run on multiple instrument configurations
331 (consistency standards) were directly compared. If no statistically significant differences
332 were observed for standard and consistency standard values between configurations,
333 replicates were pooled to calculate a combined average. Δ_{48} replicate values from the
334 MAT 253 were not pooled with replicate values from the Nu Perspective instruments.

335

336 **2.7 Calculation of Δ_{47} - T and Δ_{48} - T equilibrium relationships using regression-form** 337 **acid fractionation factors**

338

339 Temperature-dependent Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} equilibrium relationships were calculated
340 using equilibrium calcite Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} values predicted by theory from Hill et al.⁴ and
341 Tripathi et al.⁵, combined with regression-form acid fractionation factors (AFFs), Δ^*_{63-47}
342 and Δ^*_{64-48} using equations 7 and 8.

343

$$344 \Delta_{47} \text{ I-CDES EQ} = \Delta_{63} + \Delta^*_{63-47} \quad \text{Equation 7}$$

345

$$346 \Delta_{48} \text{ CDES 90 EQ} = \Delta_{64} + \Delta^*_{64-48} \quad \text{Equation 8}$$

347

348 Model calculations from Guo et al.³ predicted that AFFs for when calcite mineral
349 is digested in phosphoric acid, Δ^*_{63-47} and Δ^*_{64-48} , should depend on the Δ_{63} and Δ_{64}
350 values of the reactant carbonate, respectively. Thus, regression form AFFs were
351 determined by taking the theoretical Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} values at two temperatures, 600 °C and
352 33.7 °C, and then subtracting the experimental Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for samples with
353 known precipitation temperatures at 600 °C and 33.7 °C. Then, a linear regression was
354 made between the Δ^*_{63-47} and Δ^*_{64-48} values for 600 °C and 33.7 °C and the
355 corresponding theoretically predicted Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} values for 600 °C and 33.7 °C (Hill et
356 al.⁴; Tripathi et al.⁵). The experimental Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values used for 600 °C were the
357 pooled replicate values for ETH-1 and ETH-2 (Bernasconi et al.⁴³), and the values used
358 for 33.7 °C were from pooled replicate values for Devils Hole calcite (Coplen,³⁵). Further
359 details of this calculation are in Appendix Section A.2.

360

361 **3. RESULTS**

362

363 **3.1 Use of statistical methods for robust determination of Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values**

364

365 We find there was a negligible difference in the number of replicates removed
366 when a 3σ versus 5σ cutoff was used for outliers due to narrow peak widths (Figure S2,
367 Table S1). To further ensure the robustness of this method, we compared our final Δ_{47}
368 values to Upadaya et al.³² which presented a subset of the data reported here using
369 other methods for outlier removal and data processing (Table S2). The datasets are in
370 good agreement, with an average offset of 0.011 ‰, despite the Δ_{47} data from their
371 study being standardized differently than the data here, and then being transferred into
372 the I-CDES reference frame using an equation from Appendix A in Bernasconi et al.²⁷.

373

374 **3.2 Instrumental configuration comparison**

375

376 We found no evidence of statistically significant differences in the final Δ_{47} or Δ_{48}
377 values of samples analyzed on multiple configurations (Figure S3; Table S3, S4).
378 However, Δ_{48} data from the MAT 253 was not pooled with Nu Perspective-1 and Nu
379 Perspective-2 data because offsets were observed in Δ_{48} values for the standards ETH-
380 1 and ETH-2 that did not exist in Nu Perspective-1 and Nu Perspective-2 (Table 4). The
381 older generation MAT 253 does not use secondary electron suppression, and therefore,
382 does not yield as precise Δ_{48} data as the Nu Perspective instruments, which do use
383 secondary electron suppression. Additionally, we have not combined data produced
384 using equilibrated gas-based standardization with data produced using carbonate-
385 based standardization.

386

387 **3.3 Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} results**

388

389 Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values were determined for 7 standards using 25 °C and 1000 °C
390 equilibrated gas-based standardization, with a total of 324 Δ_{47} and 363 Δ_{48} replicate
391 analyses performed from May 2015-June 2017 (Table 3). Additionally, Δ_{47} values were
392 determined for 27 standards and samples (5,141 replicate analyses), and Δ_{48} values
393 (3,037 replicate analyses) for 24 standards and samples using carbonate-based
394 standardization, performed from April 2015-March 2021 (Table 4). All Δ_{47} sample
395 replicate-level data were normally distributed, with the exception of ETH-3 analyzed on
396 MAT 253 (Table S5). All Δ_{48} replicate-level data were normally distributed (Table S6).

397

398 We also present Δ_{48} data produced on the older generation MAT 253 mass
399 spectrometer (Table 4). Due to higher error, lower precision, and offsets in ETH-1 and
400 ETH-2 values, we did not pool Δ_{48} replicate data produced on the MAT 253 with the
401 data produced on the Nu instruments. However, Δ_{48} data from the MAT 253 is included
402 here due to the large amount of clumped isotope data produced on this instrument
403 going back to 2014, given comments from J. Eiler (pers. comm.) indicating these
404 instruments may produce usable Δ_{48} data. We sought to test as to whether this
instrument, with sufficient replication and quality control, could produce reproducible Δ_{48}

405 values. We observed that the MAT 253 produced similar sample average values for the
406 majority of samples (Table 4; Figure S3), with larger SE than the Nu Perspective
407 instruments, as expected. Thus, it may be worth mining past MAT 253 datasets to
408 examine Δ_{48} depending on the reproducibility of measurements, although newer
409 generation instrumentation is preferable for the measurement of Δ_{48} values.

410

411 **3.3.1 Experimentally determined Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regression**

412

413 The polynomial described by Equation 9 ($r^2 = 0.97$) was fit through
414 experimentally determined Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for 20 samples, including standards and
415 Devils Hole calcite (Figure 4A).

416

417

Equation 9

418

$$419 \Delta_{48}^{\text{CDES } 90} = (0.1179 \pm 0.0266) - (0.0398 \pm 0.1332)\Delta_{47}^{\text{I-CDES}} + (0.4407 \pm 0.1490)\Delta_{47}^{\text{I-CDES}^2}$$

420

421 All Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values used to calculate this regression can be found in Table 4. Of the
422 21 total samples in Figure 4, all lie within 1 SE of the 95 % confidence interval of the
423 regression, with the exception of Merck, Carmel Chalk, and 47407 Coral. 47407 Coral
424 was the only sample not included in the regression due to its apparent offset from
425 equilibrium.

426

427 **3.4 Calculated Δ_{47} - T , Δ_{48} - T , and Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regressions using regression-form AFFs**

428

429 The calculated Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} equilibrium values for 0-1000 °C are in Table 5.
430 These values were calculated using theoretical equilibrium Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} values for calcite
431 (Hill et al.⁴; Tripathi et al.⁵) and regression-form AFFs determined here. The equilibrium
432 Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} relationship (Figure 4A) is represented by equation 10.

433

434

Equation 10

435

$$436 \Delta_{48}^{\text{CDES } 90 \text{ EQ}} = 0.1123 + 0.01971 \Delta_{47}^{\text{I-CDES EQ}} + 0.364(\Delta_{47}^{\text{I-CDES EQ}})^2$$

437

438 The temperature-dependent equilibrium relationships are described by equations
439 11 and 12,

440

441

Equation 11

442

$$443 \Delta_{47}^{\text{I-CDES EQ}} = [0.6646 \pm (0.0009)] - [0.0032 \pm (3.033 \times 10^{-5})]T + [(1.012 \times 10^{-5}) \pm$$

444

445 $(2.449 \times 10^{-7})T^2 - [(1.559 \times 10^{-8}) \pm (6.717 \times 10^{-10})]T^3 + [(9.251 \times 10^{-12}) \pm (5.802 \times 10^{-13})]T^4$
 446

447
 448 Equation 12
 449

450 $\Delta_{48}^{\text{CDES 90 EQ}} = [0.2842 \pm (0.0009)] - [0.0014 \pm (3.048 \times 10^{-5})]T + [(5.741 \times 10^{-6}) \pm (2.437 \times 10^{-7})]T^2 - [(1.017 \times 10^{-8}) \pm (6.749 \times 10^{-10})]T^3 + [(6.570 \times 10^{-12}) \pm (5.830 \times 10^{-13})]T^4$
 451
 452

453
 454 where temperature is in Celsius.

455 The regression form AFFs are represented by equations 13 and 14,
 456

457 $\Delta_{63-47}^* = 0.0190 \times \Delta_{47}^{\text{I-CDES}} + 0.1842$ Equation 13
 458

459
 460 $\Delta_{64-48}^* = 0.0077 \times \Delta_{48}^{\text{CDES 90}} + 0.1290$ Equation 14
 461

462 where Δ_{63-47}^* and Δ_{64-48}^* are the AFFs. These values can be used to estimate calcite
 463 mineral Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} values via equations 7 and 8 for comparison the theory. The use of
 464 a regression form AFF is more important for Δ_{47} than Δ_{48} , as there is a ~0.009 ‰
 465 difference in Δ_{63-47}^* from 0-600 °C for Δ_{47} , while there is only a ~0.001 ‰ difference in
 466 Δ_{64-48}^* over the same temperature range (Table 5).
 467

468 4. DISCUSSION

469 4.1 Comparison of Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values determined with equilibrated gas-based 470 standardization 471

472
 473 Since Δ_{48} is a relatively new proxy, the development of robust standard values is
 474 of the utmost importance to ensure intra- and inter-laboratory reproducibility. To
 475 establish carbonate standard Δ_{48} values that can be used in data normalization for
 476 unknown samples, Δ_{48} values for carbonate standards must first be determined relative
 477 to equilibrated gases. We have compared our Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for carbonate
 478 standards determined using equilibrated gas-based standardization to other recently
 479 published datasets with paired clumped isotope values for ETH standards, including
 480 Fiebig et al.⁷, Bajnai et al.⁸, and Swart et al.⁹ (Figure 5, Table 3). There is good
 481 interlaboratory agreement for Δ_{47} values, with a range of 0.002 ‰ to 0.012 ‰ for Δ_{47}
 482 offsets for replicated samples. The Δ_{47} error, reported as 1 SE, was similar (0.001 ‰ to
 483 0.006 ‰) for all studies. When the Δ_{47} values for carbonate standards determined in
 484 these studies were compared to the multi-laboratory study from Bernasconi et al.²⁷

485 which determined nominal Δ_{47} values for carbonate standards, there was similar
486 agreement between laboratories, with offsets from 0.000 ‰ to 0.012 ‰ for replicated
487 samples (Table 3). The interlaboratory Δ_{48} offsets were larger, with a range of 0.009 ‰
488 to 0.038 ‰ for replicated samples, although the majority of replicated samples were
489 within 1 SE of each other (Table 3, Figure 5). The Δ_{48} error reported in Bajnai et al.⁸
490 of 0.004 ‰ to 0.005 ‰ was lower than that for the other studies which have error
491 ranging from 0.007 ‰ to 0.014 ‰, possibly from more replication, larger sample size
492 (10 mg compared to 0.5 mg in this study), and longer mass spectrometric integration
493 times than what was used here.

494 The use of equilibrated gases for standardization has been shown to be a
495 potential source of error and interlaboratory offsets since the sample undergoes acid
496 digestion and the gas standard does not, different laboratories use different setups to
497 produce gas standards, and fractionations may occur from quenching during the
498 production of heated gas standards⁴³. However, interlaboratory Δ_{47} offsets up to 0.024
499 ‰ in Bernsconi et al.²⁷ were determined to be the result of random error which may be
500 amplified during data normalization. The range in Δ_{47} offsets observed here are smaller
501 than what was observed in Bernsconi et al.²⁷, likely from overall high replication.
502 Additionally, we observed an average interlaboratory Δ_{48} offset of 0.018 ‰ (taken as the
503 average of the absolute value of offsets of replicated samples in Table 3). These offsets
504 are likely also from random error, considering that the m/z 48 isotopologue is an order
505 of magnitude lower in abundance than the m/z 47 isotopologue¹, and this offset is still
506 within the range of observed interlaboratory Δ_{47} offsets.

507

508 **4.2 Carbonate based standardization for Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} measurements**

509

510 Previously, important contributions have demonstrated that carbonate standard-
511 based standardization that uses readily available materials can produce robust Δ_{47}
512 values and yield interlaboratory discrepancies that are consistent with analytical
513 uncertainties^{27,31,43}. We applied this approach, using ETH-1, ETH-2, and ETH-3 as
514 carbonate standards on multiple instruments in our laboratory for the paired analysis of
515 Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} . The combined instrument average from this study (Table 4) and Bernsconi et
516 al.²⁷ had excellent agreement between ETH standard Δ_{47} values, with offsets of 0.001,
517 0.002, 0.004, and 0.005 for ETH-1, ETH-2, ETH-3, and ETH-4 (used as an unknown),
518 respectively. This is likely because the nominal Δ_{47} values determined in Bernasconi et
519 al.²⁷ for ETH standards were used here in transfer functions for data normalization,
520 adding supporting evidence for the importance of laboratories using common standard
521 values to yield reproducible results. Similarly, carbonate standard-based standardization
522 yielded reproducible Δ_{48} results (Figure 6) across the two Nu Perspective mass
523 spectrometer configurations presented in Table 4. The Δ_{48} offsets for the 3 standards
524 treated as unknowns (consistency standards), Carrara Marble, CM Tile, and ETH-4, that

525 were replicated on Nu Perspective-1 and Nu Perspective-2, ranged from 0.004 ‰ to
526 0.013 ‰. These offsets were reduced compared to interlaboratory Δ_{48} offsets observed
527 for ETH standard values and Carrara Marble determined using equilibrated gas-based
528 standardization (average: 0.018 ‰; minimum: 0.008 ‰; maximum: 0.038 ‰). Further,
529 carbonate standard based standardization was successfully used by Bajnai et al.⁴⁴ for
530 determining Δ_{48} values for Devils Hole cave calcite. There is currently no agreed upon
531 Δ_{48} values for carbonate standards, thus, for laboratories that choose to employ
532 carbonate-based standardization for Δ_{48} data and do not have in-house determined
533 standard Δ_{48} values, the use of Δ_{48} values determined here for ETH-1 (0.132 ‰; n =
534 464), ETH-2 (0.132 ‰, n = 439), and ETH-3 (0.247 ‰; n = 236) may be used in
535 carbonate-based standardization. Additional Δ_{48} values for materials that are widely
536 used and may potentially be used as standards, such as Carrara Marble (n = 319),
537 IAEA-C1 (n = 49), and IAEA-C2 (n = 59) are also in Table 4. Consistent with Daëron⁴⁵
538 and Kocken et al.⁴⁶, we recommend a 50:50 sample to standard ratio, which was what
539 was utilized here.

540

541 **4.3 Experimental Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} equilibrium regression using samples and standards**

542

543 We determined an experimental Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regression (equation 9) for 20 carbonate
544 standards and samples (combined average values in Table 4). To have a constraint as
545 to whether the materials included in the regression achieved quasi-equilibrium clumped
546 isotope values, we compared the experimental regression to our equilibrium regression
547 based on calcite mineral equilibrium theory^{4,5} for Δ_{63} - Δ_{64} (Figure 4A). The theoretical
548 regression for Δ_{63} - Δ_{64} equilibrium was transferred into Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} space with an
549 experimentally determined regression-form AFF (see Methods 2.7). The materials used
550 to determine the regression-form AFF to transfer theoretical Δ_{63} - Δ_{64} equilibrium values
551 into Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} equilibrium values were the extremely slow growing calcite from Devils Hole
552 and pooled values for ETH-1 and ETH-2. These materials have well-constrained
553 precipitation temperatures and are believed to have achieved quasi-equilibrium clumped
554 isotope values^{35,43,44}. When the experimental regression using 20 carbonates was
555 compared to the theoretical/experimental AFF regression, they were found to be
556 statistically indistinguishable (P = 0.39; F = 1.03; Table S7). This supports the
557 assumption that the materials used in the experimental regression have achieved quasi-
558 equilibrium clumped isotope values.

559 Of the materials used in the regression, all lie within 1 SE of the 95 % confidence
560 interval of the regression, with the exception of Merck, Carmel Chalk, and 47407 Coral.
561 The 47407 Coral was the only sample for which we determined a Δ_{48} value that was not
562 included in the regression. The possibility that Merck, an ultra-pure synthetic calcite,
563 and Carmel Chalk, a natural calcite chalk, are exhibiting subtle clumped isotope
564 disequilibrium cannot be excluded. However, both Merck and Carmel Chalk deviated

565 from the equilibrium regressions by <1 SD and therefore were included in the
566 experimental regression, while 47407 Coral deviated from the regressions by >1 SD.
567 47407 Coral is a deep-sea coral of the genus *Desmophyllum* with an estimated growth
568 temperature of 4.2 °C.²¹ Guo et al.²⁴ used model estimates to predict a negative
569 correlation between Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for cold-water corals, with kinetic effects causing
570 enrichments in Δ_{47} values and depletions in Δ_{48} values. We determined that the 47407
571 Coral exhibits an enrichment of 0.030 ‰ in Δ_{47} and depletion of -0.018 ‰ in Δ_{48} by
572 defining nominal equilibrium as the regression through the remaining carbonates, and
573 the offsets were determined by using a kinetic slope for CO₂ absorption in corals of -
574 0.6^{8,24}. Bajnai et al.⁸ also measured Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for a coral of the same genus
575 (*Desmophyllum*) and a brachiopod (*Magellania venosa*) and observed similar
576 enrichments in Δ_{47} (0.038 ‰ to 0.069 ‰) and depletions in Δ_{48} (-0.0004 ‰ to -0.095
577 ‰). Additionally, modeling from Guo et al.²⁴ and Bajnai et al.⁸ predicts deviations from
578 equilibrium of a similar magnitude.

579

580 **4.4 Constraining equilibrium Δ_{47} - Δ_{48}**

581

582 The equilibrium Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} relationship is of recent interest due to the potential for
583 use to identify kinetic effects in biotic and abiogenic samples that are or could be used
584 for paleotemperature reconstructions. As mentioned above, a recent study⁸ used a
585 kinetic slope calculated relative to a proposed equilibrium Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regression to recover
586 temperature signals in kinetically controlled samples. To further develop the use of Δ_{47} -
587 Δ_{48} equilibrium as a proxy to constrain kinetic effects, the Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} equilibrium
588 relationship must be well constrained. Thus, we compared the experimentally
589 determined Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regressions for quasi-equilibrium materials determined here
590 (Equation 9) to those from Swart et al.⁹ and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ using a sum-of-squares F test
591 (Table S7). This compares the fit of a regression through all datasets to the fit of
592 individual regressions for each dataset, and tests whether the datasets differ sufficiently
593 from each other to warrant separate regressions. The dataset from Swart et al.⁹
594 contains 7 inorganic precipitations in 5 °C increments from 5 °C to 65 °C and carbonate
595 standards ETH-1, ETH-2, ETH-3, and ETH-4. The dataset from Fiebig et al.¹⁰ includes
596 16 carbonates, some of which are combined into averages, yielding 10 samples that are
597 used for comparison here, including lake calcite, Devils Hole calcite, inorganic calcite
598 precipitations, and calcite equilibrated at high temperatures, with crystallization
599 temperatures for all samples ranging from 8 °C to 1100 °C. We found no evidence of
600 statistically significant differences between the individual regressions (P = 0.86; F =
601 0.43; Table S7), and we therefore produced a combined regression (Figure 4B),
602 described by equation 15, which is composed of 41 samples that are believed to have
603 achieved quasi-equilibrium clumped isotope values.

604

605
606

$$\Delta_{48}^{\text{CDES } 90} = (0.1132 \pm 0.010) + (0.008 \pm 0.055) \Delta_{47}^{\text{CDES } 90} + (0.3692 \pm 0.065) \Delta_{47}^{\text{CDES } 90^2}$$

609 Of the 41 materials used in the combined regression, 35 are within 1 SE of the 95 %
 610 confidence interval. The samples outside of the confidence interval include Carmel
 611 Chalk, ETH-4, and Merck from this study; ETH-2 and ETH-4 from Swart et al.⁹; and a
 612 cave lake calcite sample from Fiebig et al.¹⁰. It is unlikely that ETH-2 is exhibiting kinetic
 613 effects since it has an equilibration temperature of 600 °C⁴³, and has near stochastic
 614 isotopic values⁴⁷. The cave lake calcite sample from Fiebig et al.¹⁰ is from Laghetto
 615 Basso, Italy with a precipitation temperature of 7.9 ± 0.2 °C. Fiebig et al.¹⁰ and Daëron et
 616 al.⁴⁸ argued that this sample precipitated close to equilibrium due to long residence
 617 times of water in the lake, low calcite saturation index (< 0.3), slow precipitation rate (0.3
 618 μm/yr), and consistent δ¹⁸O values for contemporaneously deposited calcite layers. It
 619 cannot be ruled out that ETH-4, the same commercially available calcite as ETH-2 but
 620 unheated⁴³, exhibits subtle kinetic effects. The ETH-4 sample from this study is much
 621 closer to the equilibrium regression than the ETH-4 sample from Swart et al.⁹, mostly
 622 due to offsets in the Δ₄₈ value (0.030 ‰) between the studies, which is larger than the
 623 offset for Δ₄₇ (0.014 ‰). Both the Δ₄₇ and Δ₄₈ offsets between the studies are >2 SE but
 624 <1 SD, and within the threshold of observed scatter from random error²⁷, therefore, the
 625 difference in ETH-4 values between this study and Swart et al.⁹ may be reflection of
 626 different standardization methods (carbonate-based standardization used here and
 627 equilibrated gas-based standardization in Swart et al.⁹) and measurement uncertainty.
 628 As discussed above in Section 4.3, it also cannot be ruled out that Carmel Chalk from
 629 this study exhibits subtle kinetic effects. However, the scatter for all samples and
 630 standards around the equilibrium line are well within what is expected from random
 631 error²⁷. Further, the lack of statistical differences (P = 0.71; F = 0.46; Table S7) between
 632 the combined experimental regression and the theoretically based regression (equation
 633 10) is evidence that equation 15 is a robust experimental representation of Δ₄₇-Δ₄₈
 634 equilibrium and can be used to constrain unknown sample kinetic biases.

635

636 **4.5 Constraining equilibrium Δ₄₇-T and Δ₄₈-T**

637

638 To date, four groups have published relationships for both Δ₄₇-T and Δ₄₈-T. The
 639 regressions from Swart et al.⁹ and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ are based on experimentally
 640 constrained values (as discussed in Section 4.4), while the regressions from this study
 641 and Bajnai et al.⁸ are based on a combination of calcite mineral Δ₆₃-Δ₆₄ equilibrium
 642 theory and experimental AFFs (see Methods 2.7). The Δ₄₇-T and Δ₄₈-T regressions from
 643 Bajnai et al.⁸ was calculated for 0-40 °C, while the experimentally based regressions
 644 from Swart et al.⁹ are for 0-65 °C. In this study we calculated Δ₄₇-T and Δ₄₈-T values

645 from 0-1000 °C, and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ has experimentally constrained values up to 1100
646 °C. Due to the regressions from this study and Bajnai et al.⁸ being theoretically based
647 and therefore difficult to accurately provide an error calculation, we were unable to
648 perform the same type of statistical analysis that compares the regressions, as we did
649 for the experimental Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regressions. Instead, we have compared the absolute
650 difference between the regressions at 0 °C and 600 °C and compared this difference to
651 measurement error observed in standards replicated between the laboratories. We used
652 this metric to determine if it was appropriate to determine a combined regression. For
653 Δ_{47} - T , the largest difference at 0 °C was 0.007 ‰ between this study and Bajnai et al.⁸.
654 At 600 °C, an offset of 0.001 ‰ was calculated between this study and Fiebig et al.¹⁰.
655 For Δ_{48} - T , the largest difference at 0 °C was 0.014 ‰ between this study and Bajnai et
656 al.⁸. At 600 °C, an offset of 0.006 ‰ was calculated between this study and Fiebig et
657 al.¹⁰. These offsets are well within the bounds of what we observed when comparing
658 differences between ETH standard Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values between laboratories (Section
659 4.1, Figure 5). This is a good metric for interlaboratory expected analytical error due to
660 large numbers of replicates of ETH standards in all groups. The offsets are also within
661 the bounds expected from random error in Δ_{47} measurements²⁷. Therefore, we
662 determined combined regressions for Δ_{47} - T and Δ_{48} - T (Figure 7), including this study,
663 Bajnai et al.⁸, Swart et al.⁹, and Fiebig et al.¹⁰, represented by equations 16 and 17

664
665 Equation 16

$$\Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES; CDES 90}} = 0.2017 - 36.2 \times (1/T) + 16822 \times (1/T)^2 + 18878240 \times (1/T)^3 - 3064202063 \times (1/T)^4$$

666
667
668
669 Equation 17

$$\Delta_{48 \text{ CDES 90}} = 0.1642 - 64.1 \times (1/T) + 32920 \times (1/T)^2 - 3140075 \times (1/T)^3 + 354396957 \times (1/T)^4$$

670
671 where T is in Kelvin. We also report the inverse of the relationships for ease of use for
672 samples with unknown precipitation temperature in equations 18 and 19.

673
674
675
676
677 Equation 18

$$1/T = -0.003728 + 0.04027 \times \Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES; CDES 90}} - 0.1048 \times (\Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES; CDES 90}})^2 + 0.134 \times (\Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES; CDES 90}})^3 - 0.06386 \times (\Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES; CDES 90}})^4$$

678
679
680
681
682 Equation 19

683

684 $1/T = -0.02296 + 0.425 \times \Delta_{48 \text{ CDES } 90} - 2.718 \times (\Delta_{48 \text{ CDES } 90})^2 + 7.936 \times (\Delta_{48 \text{ CDES } 90})^3 -$
685 $8.704 \times (\Delta_{48 \text{ CDES } 90})^4$
686

687 To check the robustness of these equations, we solved the Δ_{47} - T equation
688 (equation 16) for 10 °C, yielding a Δ_{47} value of 0.639 ‰. Then, solved the
689 experimentally determined combined Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regression for Δ_{48} (equation 15) using
690 0.639 ‰ as the input Δ_{47} . This returned a Δ_{48} value of 0.269 ‰, which is offset by 0.004
691 ‰ from the Δ_{48} value obtained when solving the Δ_{48} - T equation (equation 17) for 10 °C.
692 While it may seem obvious that these equations would have good agreement, this may
693 not necessarily have been the case given the large amount of data determined here for
694 samples and standards that contributed to the experimental Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} regression not
695 having a constrained relationship to temperature, and it was therefore not used in the
696 Δ_{47} - T and Δ_{48} - T regressions. Additionally, the theoretically based Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values
697 from Bajnai et al.⁸ and this study were not included in the experimentally based Δ_{47} - Δ_{48}
698 regression. Thus, the excellent agreement between the combined experimental Δ_{47} - Δ_{48}
699 regression, and combined Δ_{47} - T and Δ_{48} - T regressions provides evidence that
700 equations 15-19 are robust representations of clumped isotope Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} , Δ_{47} - T , and Δ_{48} -
701 T quasi-equilibrium relationships.
702

703 **4.6 Comparison of Devils Hole Δ_{47} and Δ_{48}** 704

705 There are multiple lines of evidence that Devils Hole calcite has achieved very
706 close to oxygen and clumped isotope equilibrium values^{35,44} and has a well-constrained
707 precipitation temperature of 33.7 °C⁴⁹⁻⁵²; therefore, samples from Devils Hole have
708 been used to anchor clumped isotope equilibrium regressions^{5,8,10}, including in this
709 study. To further constrain Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for Devils Hole, replicate-level values
710 from this study were compared to previously published replicate-level values from
711 Bajnai et al.⁴⁴ and Fiebig et al.¹⁰. This study used four samples from core DH-2,
712 spanning 146-176 ka.³⁴ Bajnai et al.⁴⁴ used ten samples from cores DH-11, DHC2-8,
713 and DHC2-3, spanning 4.5-508 ka. Fiebig et al.¹⁰ used four samples from core DHC2-
714 8, all of which were dated to 4.5-16.9 ka. The replicate pools from these three studies
715 were compared using an ANOVA (Table S8), which is a statistical test comparing
716 whether population means are significantly different. The mean Δ_{48} values from all three
717 studies were statistically indistinguishable ($P = 0.71$; $F = 0.34$; Table S8). In contrast,
718 the mean Δ_{47} values from this study and Bajnai et al.⁴⁴ were significantly different ($p <$
719 0.0001), as were mean Δ_{47} values from this study and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ ($p < 0.0001$). The
720 Devils Hole mean Δ_{47} value offset between this study and Bajnai et al.⁴⁴ is 0.012 ‰, and
721 0.018 ‰ between this study and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ (Table 6). For comparison, the largest
722 offset in replicated standard values between this study, Fiebig et al.⁷, and Bajnai et al.⁸

723 was 0.012 ‰ (Table 3), thus, the observed offset in Devils Hole Δ_{47} values could be
724 from analytical error.

725 It is unlikely that the offsets are the result of Devils Hole samples exhibiting
726 kinetic effects from CO₂ degassing from groundwater, which is observed in other
727 speleothems^{19,20,24,53–55}. Clumped isotope values that exhibit kinetic effects from
728 degassing result in decreased Δ_{47} values and increased Δ_{48} values, with an
729 approximately linear early departure from equilibrium that has a slope of $\sim -0.793^{8,24}$.
730 The samples from Devils Hole do not follow this trend, as was concluded in Bajnai et
731 al.⁴⁴ and here (red arrow in Figure 8). Although we cannot preclude the possibility there
732 are small, yet resolvable differences in Devils Hole clumped isotope values from
733 samples of different ages given that we did not measure the same samples, the
734 evidence here does not provide sufficient evidence to support that conclusion.

735 The combined average Δ_{47} value from all replicates from samples in this study,
736 Bajnai et al.⁴⁴, and Fiebig et al.¹⁰, yielded a Δ_{47} value of 0.571 ± 0.001 ‰, which yields a
737 temperature value of 33.9 ± 0.3 °C from equation 18. The combined average Δ_{48} value
738 0.238 ± 0.007 yields a temperature value of 30.8 ± 6.8 °C when input into equation 19.
739 Both Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} reconstructed temperatures values are congruent with measured
740 temperature values from Devils Hole ranging from 32.8-34.3 °C^{49–52}. This provides
741 further evidence that the observed interlaboratory offsets in Devils Hole samples are
742 likely caused analytical error and/or error from data normalization, and the average
743 interlaboratory Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values for Devils Hole (Table 6) provide accurate equilibrium
744 clumped isotope values for 33.7 °C.

745

746 5. CONCLUSIONS

747

748 This study, which contains 5,465 Δ_{47} and 3,400 Δ_{48} measurements of standards
749 and samples, helps to establish Δ_{48} values that can be used in carbonate standard-
750 based standardization. Our data supports previous Δ_{47} research^{26,27,32,43} that carbonate-
751 based standardization is a robust technique, and demonstrate that carbonate standard-
752 based standardization produces statistically indistinguishable Δ_{48} data on varying
753 instrumentation. Interlaboratory reproducibility of Δ_{48} values would likely be improved by
754 the universal application of carbonate-based standardization using agreed upon
755 carbonate standard values.

756 We have further constrained the equilibrium Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} relationship with
757 experimental values for standards and samples and formed a combined experimental
758 regression with data from this study and previously published work. We constructed
759 equilibrium Δ_{47} -T and Δ_{48} -T regressions using experimental and theoretically-based
760 values and formed combined regressions using this study and previously published
761 work. We compared Δ_{47} - Δ_{48} values for Devils Hole calcite from this study and previously

762 published work and determined that the overall combined average Δ_{47} - and Δ_{48} -
763 reconstructed temperatures align with measured values of 33.7 °C.

764

765 **Data Accessibility Statement**

766

767 All code and raw data used in analyses are available for review at
768 <https://github.com/Tripati-Lab/Lucarelli-et-al>. Upon acceptance for publication, code and
769 raw data will be permanently archived at Dryad, a static link provided in the manuscript,
770 and this section updated.

771

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773

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780 **References**

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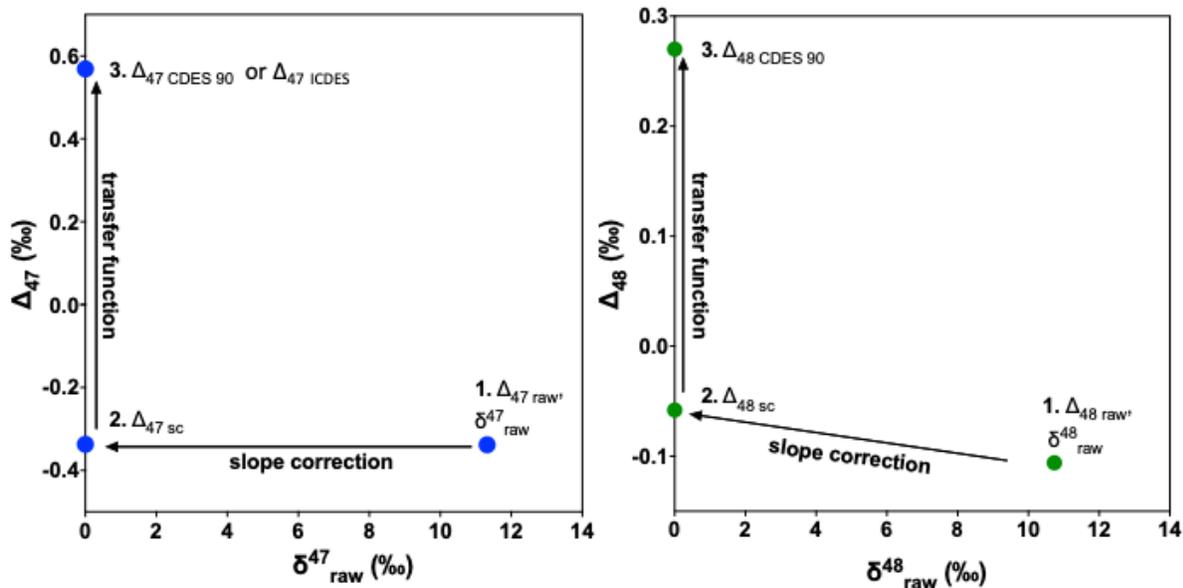
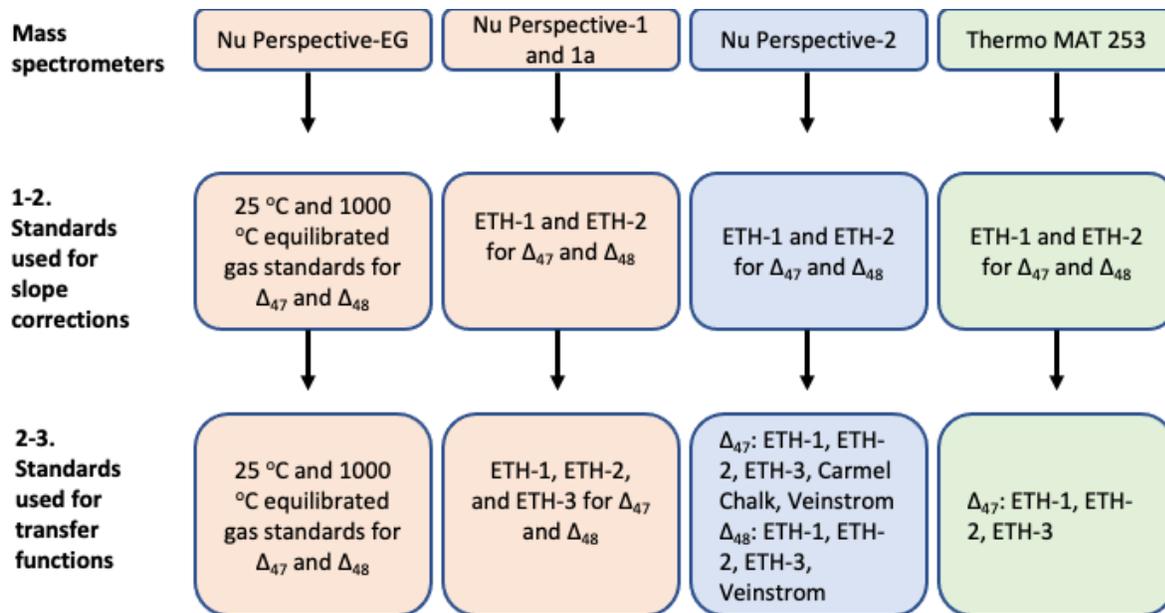
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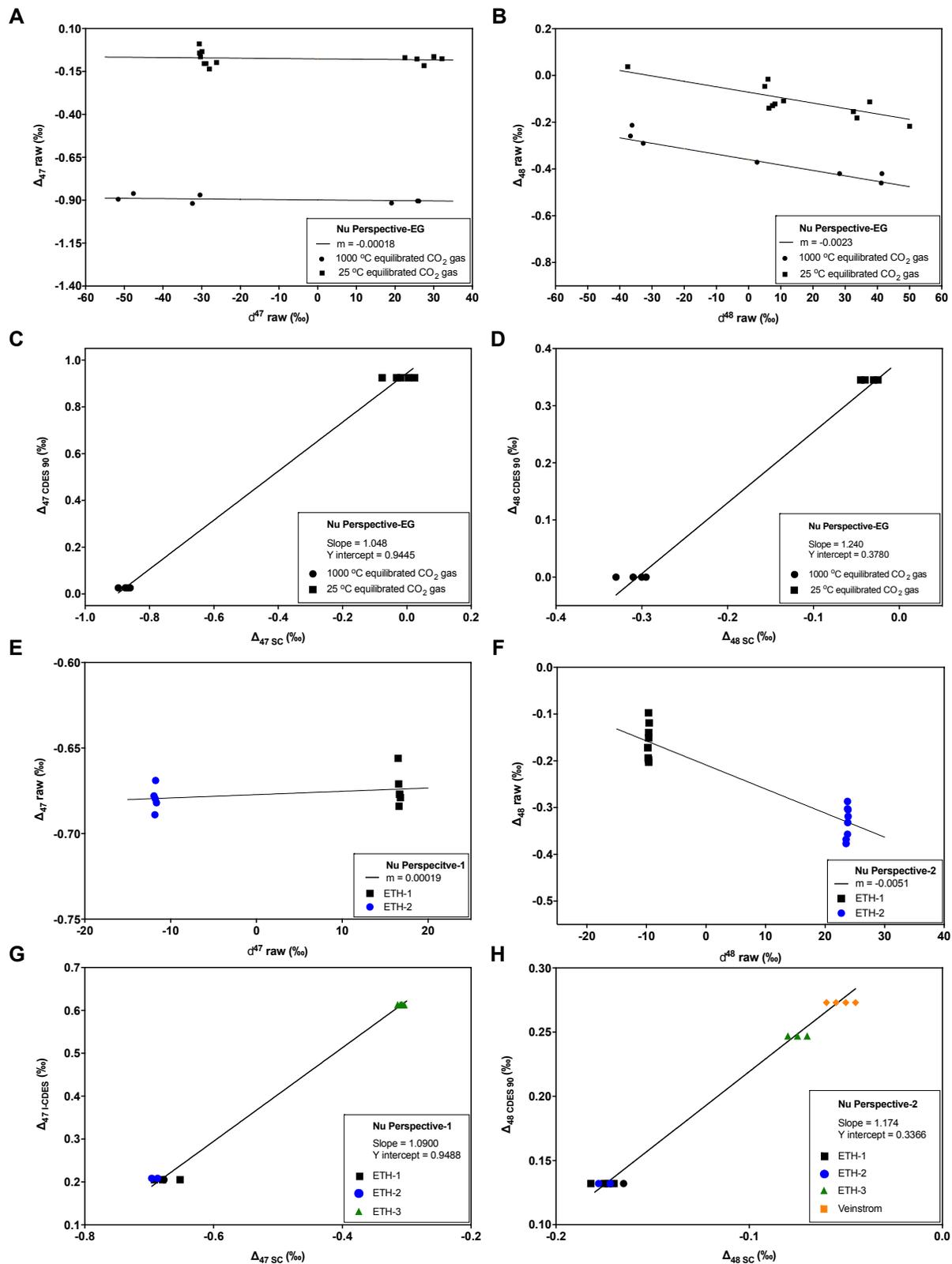
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Figure 1. Flow chart indicating which standards are used for data normalization in each instrumental configuration, and how the data is transformed at each step. The bottom two panels are adapted from Dennis et al.²⁶.



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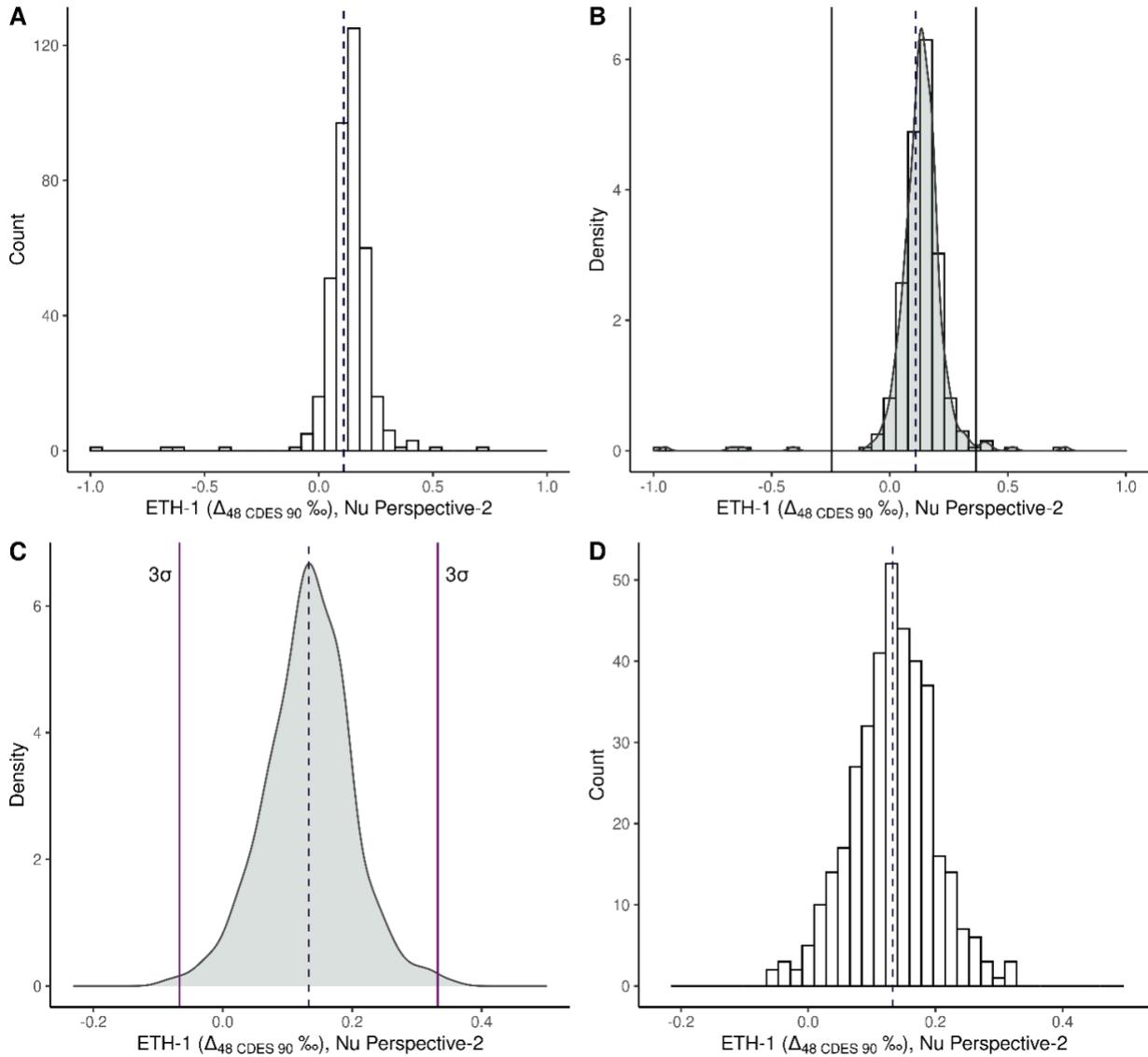
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Figure 2. Representative examples of slope corrections and transfer functions performed for data normalization. Panels A) and B) are the slope correction using

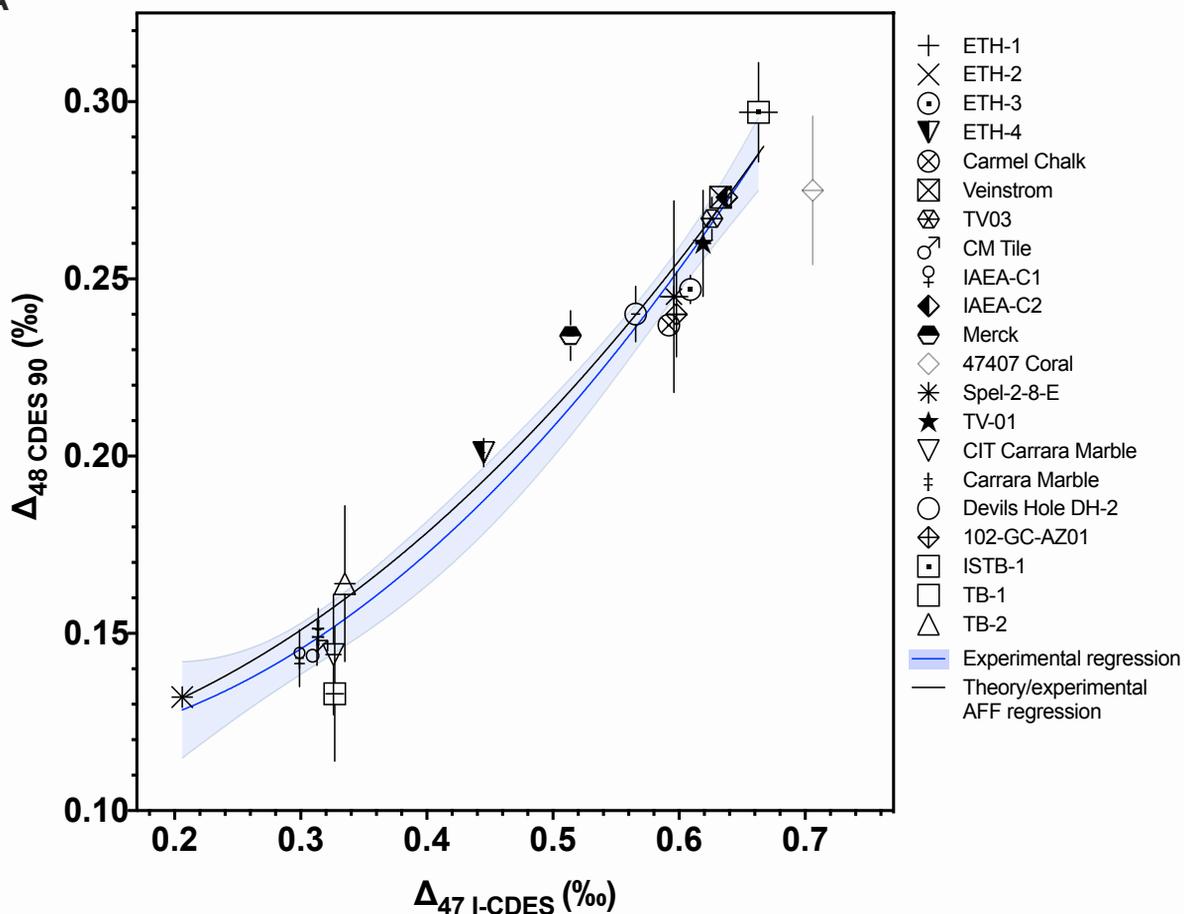
951 equilibrated gas standards on Nu Perspective-EG for δ^{47} versus $\Delta_{47 \text{ raw}}$ and δ^{48} and Δ_{48}
952 raw , respectively. Panels C) and D) are transfer functions using equilibrated gas
953 standards on Nu Perspective-EG for Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} , respectively. Panels (E) and (F) are
954 the slope correction using carbonate standards ETH-1 and ETH-2 on Nu Perspective-1
955 for δ^{47} versus $\Delta_{47 \text{ raw}}$ and δ^{48} and $\Delta_{48 \text{ raw}}$, respectively. Panels (G) and (H) are transfer
956 functions using carbonate standards ETH-1, ETH-2, and ETH-3, and Veinstrom (for Δ_{48}
957 only) on Nu Perspective-1 for Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} , respectively. The slopes are determined on a
958 10-day moving interval to account for instrument drift and applied to standards and
959 samples. Data normalization is performed similarly on all instruments.
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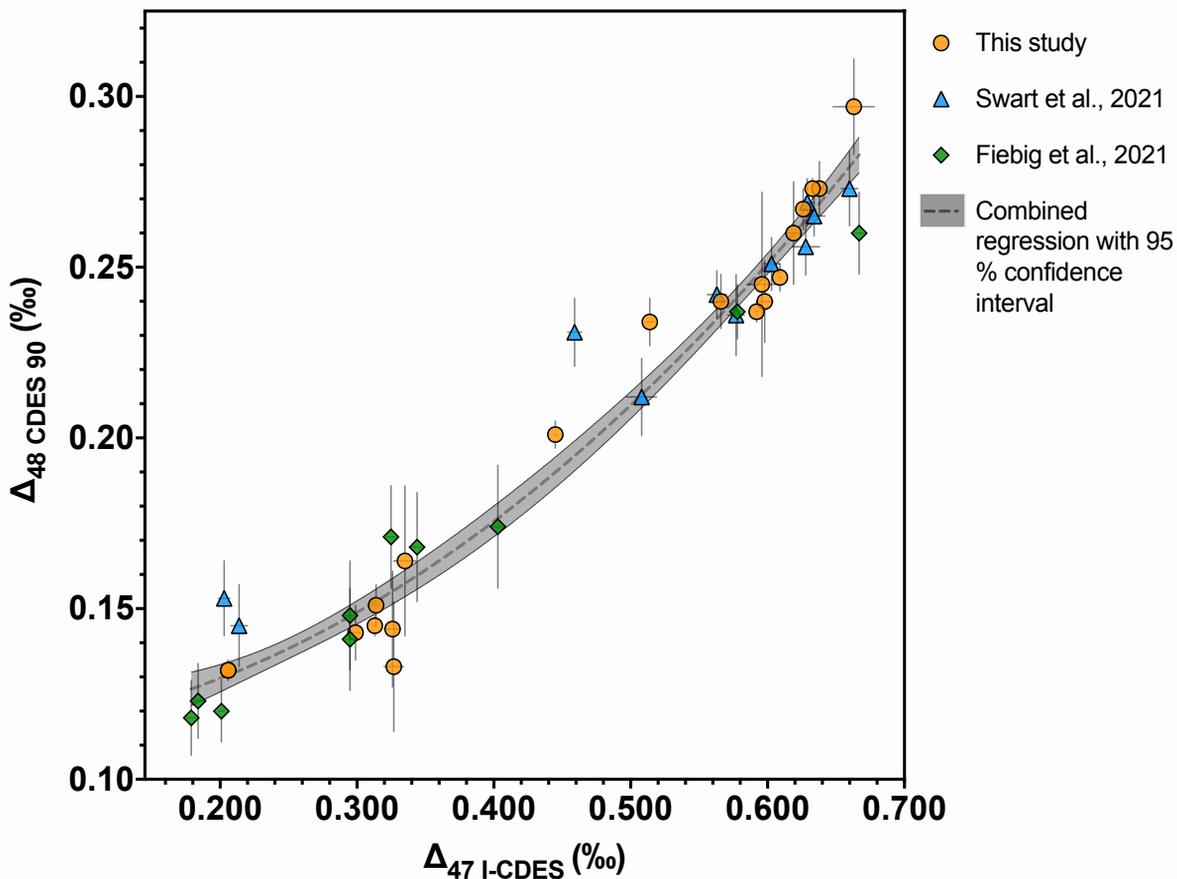


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964 **Figure 3.** Example of data throughout the quality control process. In all panels, the
965 dashed vertical line represents the mean value of sample replicates. A) Histogram of
966 the raw replicate pool (N = 389, where N is the number of sample replicates). B) Density
967 plot with histogram of the raw replicate pool and first outlier removal for large outliers
968 (solid vertical lines). C) Density plot of the replicate pool following initial exclusions (N =
969 378); potential cutoff at 3σ (solid vertical lines) is shown. D) Histogram of the final
970 replicate pool following a 3σ exclusion (mean = 0.133 ‰, SD = 0.065, N = 376). Note
971 that the x and y axis scales differ between plots.
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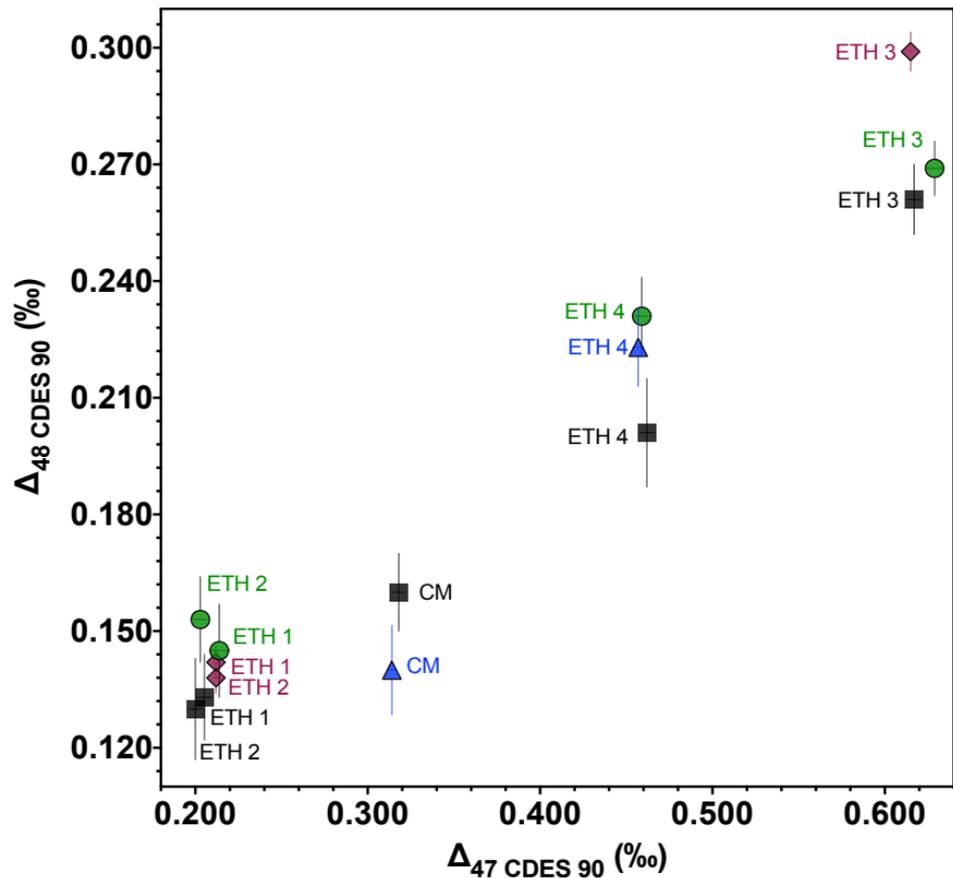
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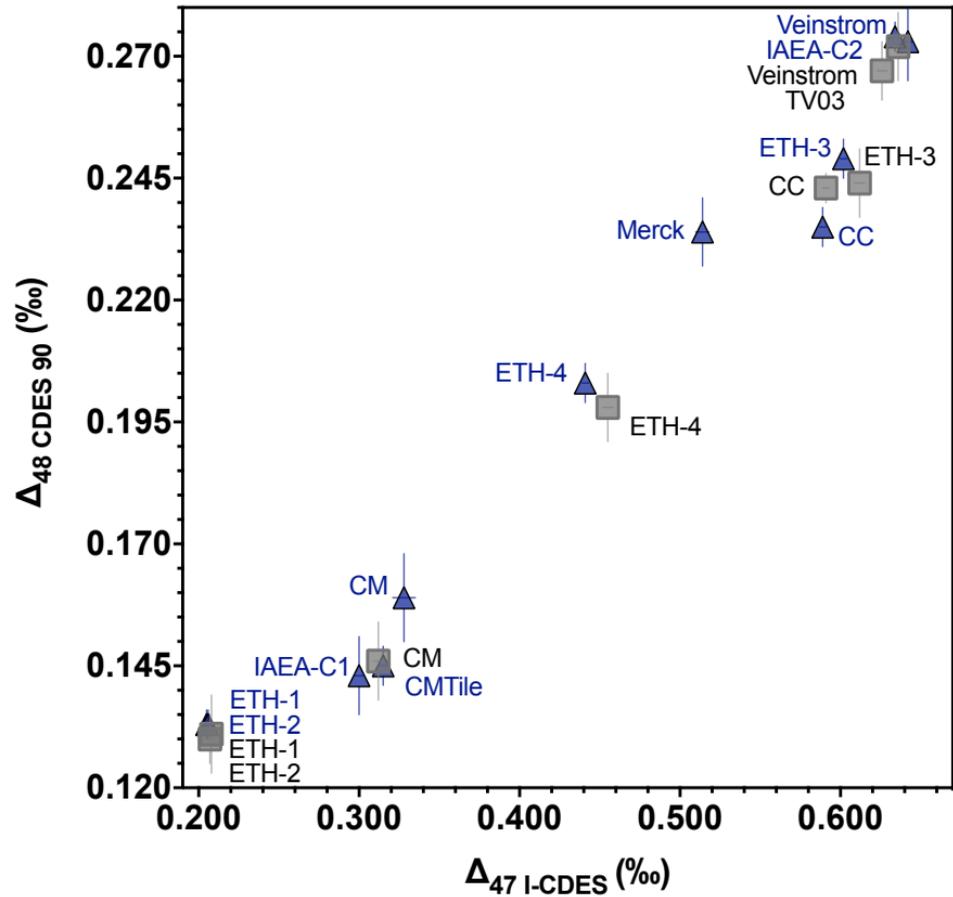
974 **Figure 4.** A) Plot showing for $\Delta_{47}-\Delta_{48}$ values for 21 samples including standards and
975 Devils Hole (DH-2) cave calcite. A second order polynomial was fitted through all
976 samples, with the exception of 47407 Coral, which may express kinetic bias. The light
977 blue shading indicates the 95 % confidence interval. Also shown is an equilibrium
978 regression calculated using theoretical calcite equilibrium Δ_{63} and $\Delta_{64}^{4,5}$ combined with
979 experimental AFFs to determine $\Delta_{47}-\Delta_{48}$ values. Error bars indicate 1 SE. B)
980 Experimental $\Delta_{47}-\Delta_{48}$ data from this study, Swart et al.⁹, and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ The data
981 from this study are the same as for panel A, with the exception of 47407 Coral. The
982 individual regressions fit through each dataset were determined to be statistically
983 indistinguishable ($P = 0.86$; $F = 0.43$; Table S7), and a combined data regression was
984 determined including all three datasets. The grey shading indicates the 95 % confidence
985 interval for the combined regression.
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- This study; Nu Perspective-EG
- ▲ Fiebig et al., 2019
- ◆ Fiebig et al., 2019; Bajnai et al., 2020
- Swart et al., 2021

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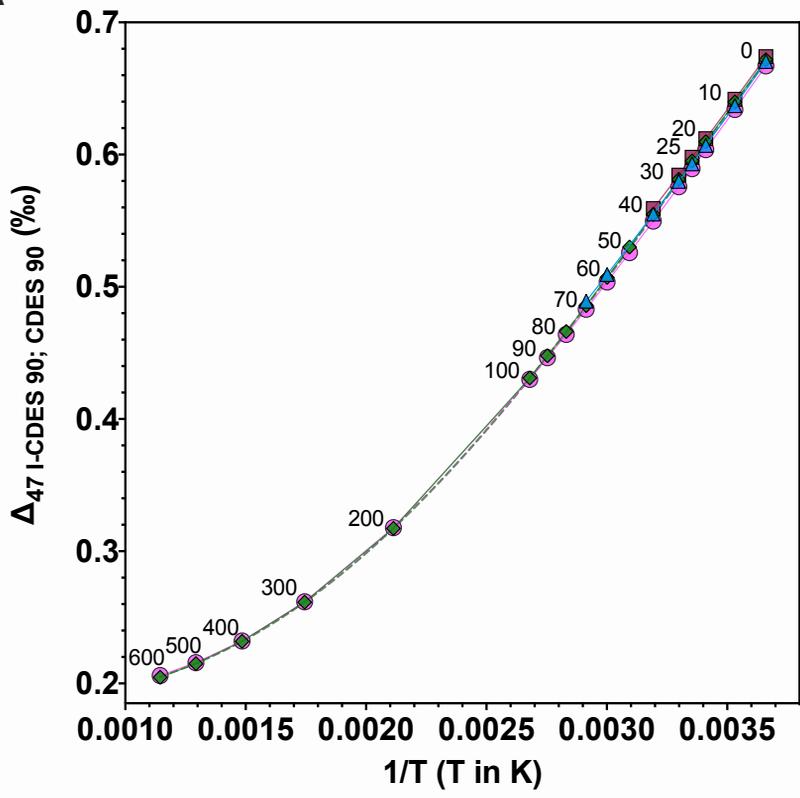
Figure 5. Plot showing comparison between $\Delta_{47}\text{-}\Delta_{48}$ values for ETH-1, ETH-2, ETH-3, ETH-4, and Carrara Marble (CM) from Nu Perspective-EG from this study with values from Fiebig et al.⁷, Bajnai et al.⁸, and Swart et al.⁹ All data in this plot were standardized with 25 °C and 1000 °C equilibrated gas-based standardization. Error bars indicate 1 SE.



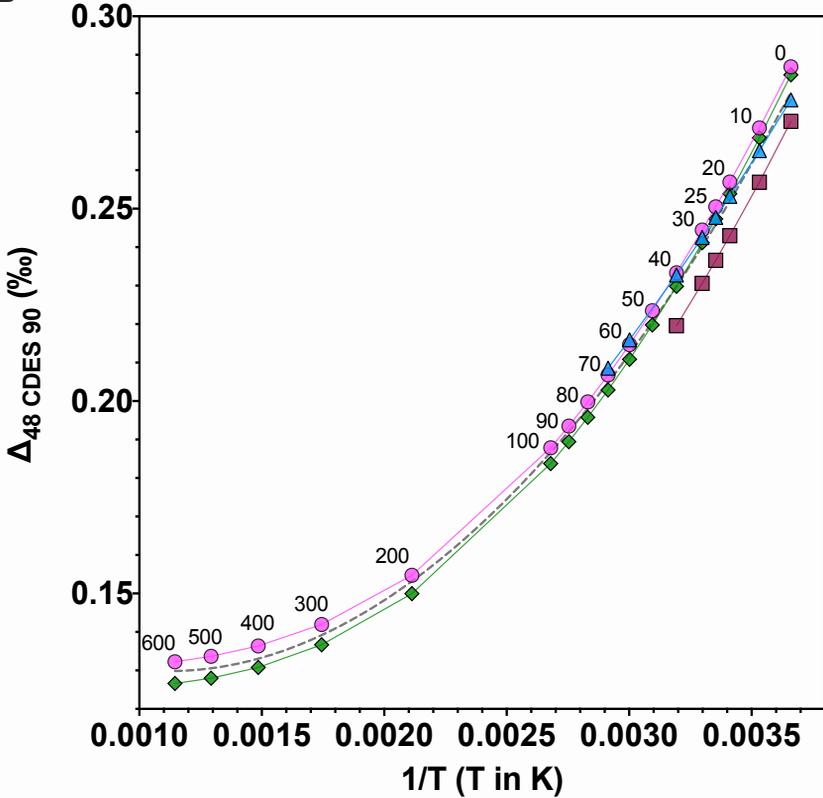
■ Nu Perspective-1

▲ Nu Perspective-2

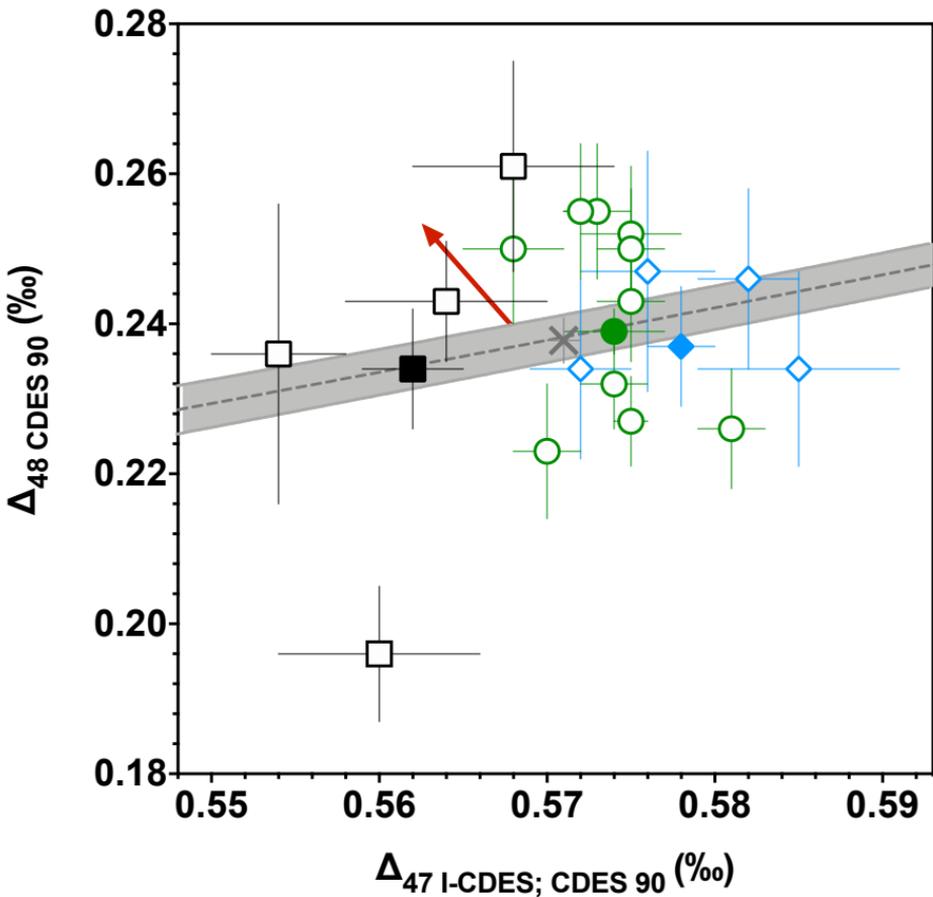
1027 **Figure 6.** $\Delta_{47}-\Delta_{48}$ values for standards and samples determined using carbonate-based
1028 standardization on Nu Perspective-1 and Nu Perspective-2. Error bars indicate 1 SE.
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A

- This study
- ▲ Swart et al., 2021
- ◆ Fiebig et al., 2021
- Bajnai et al., 2020
- Combined regression

B

1031 **Figure 7. A)** $\Delta_{47}-T$ and B) $\Delta_{48}-T$ regressions from this study and Bajnai et al.⁸ that rely
1032 on calcite $\Delta_{63}-\Delta_{64}$ equilibrium theory and experimental AFFs, and regressions from
1033 Swart et al.⁹ and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ that rely on experimentally constrained values. A
1034 combined regression for all datasets is represented by the gray dashed line. Numbers
1035 by the data points indicate temperature in Celsius.
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□ This study

○ Bajnai et al., 2021

◇ Fiebig et al., 2021

Solid points are average values

× Interlaboratory combined average

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Figure 8. Plot showing $\Delta_{47}-\Delta_{48}$ values for Devils Hole cave calcite determined in this study, Bajnai et al.⁴⁴ and Fiebig et al.¹⁰ The open points indicate individual samples, and solid points are the overall average from each study. The gray X is the combined average from all datasets. The gray dashed line is the combined experimental regression (equation 15 with the 95 % confidence interval).

Table 1. Description of the mineralogy and origin for samples and standards analyzed in this study (Upadhyay et al., 2021; Chang et al., 2020; Bernasconi et al., 2018), including 4 samples of Devils Hole calcite. Uranium-series ages for Devils Hole vein calcite were determined by Winograd et al. (2006).

Standard	Mineralogy	Origin
102-GC-AZ01	calcite	Vein carbonate from Grand Canyon
Carmel Chalk	calcite	Chalk
Carrara Marble	calcite	Collected in Carrara, Tuscany, Italy.
CM Tile	calcite	Homogenized version of Carrara Marble (UCLA)
47407 Coral	aragonite	Deep sea coral, <i>Desmophyllum</i>
DH-2-10	calcite	Devils Hole - U.S. Geological Survey, Ash Meadows, Nevada. Core DH-2. 172 ± 4 ka
DH-2-11	calcite	Devils Hole - U.S. Geological Survey, Ash Meadows, Nevada. Core DH-2. 163 ± 5 ka
DH-2-12	calcite	Devils Hole - U.S. Geological Survey, Ash Meadows, Nevada. Core DH-2. 157 ± 5 ka
DH-2-13	calcite	Devils Hole - U.S. Geological Survey, Ash Meadows, Nevada. Core DH-2. 151 ± 4 ka
ETH-1	calcite	Carrara Marble, heated to 600°C at 155 MPa for 10 hours, sent from ETH Zurich
ETH-2	calcite	Reagent grade synthetic, subjected to same treatment as ETH-1, sent from ETH Zurich
ETH-3	calcite	Upper Cretaceous chalk (mostly coccoliths), Isle of Rügen, Germany, sent from ETH Zurich
ETH-4	calcite	Same reagent grade synthetic as ETH-2, but unheated, sent from ETH Zurich
IAEA-C1	calcite	Carrara Marble, from International Atomic Energy Agency
IAEA-C2	travertine	Collected in Bavaria. From International Atomic Energy Agency
ISTB-1	calcite	Speleothem from Yichang, Hubei province, China
Mallinckrodt	calcite	Synthetic, from Mallinckrodt Baker, Inc.
MERCK	calcite	Synthetic, from International Atomic Energy Agency
NBS 19	calcitic marble	Carrara Marble, from National Bureau of Standards
Spel 2-8-E	calcite	Speleothem
SRM 88B	dolomitic limestone	Collected from mine site near Skokie, Illinois, USA
TB-1	marble	Marble rock of marine origin from Quyang, Hebei province, China
TB-2	calcite	Hydrothermal calcite from Yanji, Jilin province, China
TV01	calcite	Travertine tile
TV03	calcite	Travertine tile
Veinstrom	calcite	Shallow carbonate vein collected from Tempiute Mountain, Nevada

Table 2. Description of mass spectrometer configurations used in this study.

Configuration	Mass spectrometer model	Acid digestion temperature	Acid Digestion System, sample size	m/z 44 ion beam intensity	Integration time	Use of equilibrated gas-based corrections	Use of carbonate-based corrections
Nu Perspective- EG	Nu Instruments Perspective	90 °C	Common acid bath, 0.45-0.60	80 nA before 6/2017, 60 nA after	1600 s	Yes, 25 and 1000 °C gases	No
Nu Perspective-1	Nu Instruments Perspective	90 °C	Common acid bath, 0.45-0.60	80 nA before 6/2017, 60 nA after	1600 s	No	Yes
Nu Perspective -1a	Nu Instruments Perspective	90 °C	Common acid bath, 0.45-0.60	80-30 nA	1200 s	No	Yes
Nu Perspective-2	Nu Instruments Perspective	70 °C	Nu Carb, 0.45-0.60	80-30 nA	1200 s	No	Yes
MAT 253	Thermo Finnigan MAT 253	90 °C	Common acid bath, 5-7 mg	16 V	720 s	No	Yes

Table 5. Theoretical equilibrium Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} for calcite (Hill et al., 2014; Tripathi et al., 2015), acid fractionation factors (AFFs) Δ^*_{63-47} and Δ^*_{64-48} for the phosphoric acid digestion of calcite to CO_2 , and calcite equilibrium Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values. The AFFs were calculated using regressions determined from the difference in theoretical Δ_{63} and Δ_{64} values at 600 °C and 33.7 °C and samples with known precipitation temperatures, ETH-1 (600 °C), ETH-2 (600 °C), and Devils Hole calcite (33.7 °C). Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} values were calculated as $\Delta_{63} + \Delta^*_{63-47} = \Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES}}$ and $\Delta_{64} + \Delta^*_{64-48} = \Delta_{48 \text{ CDES } 90}$, using equations 7 and 8, respectively.

Temperature	Δ_{63} (‰) (Hill et al., 2014; Tripathi et al., 2015)	Δ^*_{63-47} (‰)	$\Delta_{47 \text{ I-CDES}}$ (‰)	Δ_{64} (‰) (Hill et al., 2014; Tripathi et al., 2015)	Δ^*_{64-48} (‰)	$\Delta_{48 \text{ CDES } 90}$ (‰)
0	0.470	0.197	0.667	0.156	0.131	0.287
10	0.438	0.196	0.634	0.140	0.131	0.271
20	0.408	0.196	0.604	0.126	0.131	0.257
22	0.402	0.196	0.598	0.123	0.131	0.254
25	0.394	0.195	0.589	0.120	0.131	0.251
30	0.381	0.195	0.576	0.114	0.131	0.245
33.7 (DH-2)	0.371	0.195	0.566	0.109	0.131	0.240
40	0.355	0.195	0.550	0.103	0.131	0.233
50	0.332	0.194	0.526	0.093	0.131	0.224
60	0.310	0.194	0.504	0.084	0.131	0.215
70	0.290	0.193	0.483	0.076	0.131	0.207
80	0.271	0.193	0.464	0.069	0.131	0.200
90	0.254	0.193	0.446	0.063	0.131	0.194
100	0.238	0.192	0.430	0.058	0.130	0.188
200	0.128	0.190	0.318	0.025	0.130	0.155
300	0.073	0.189	0.262	0.012	0.130	0.142
400	0.044	0.189	0.232	0.006	0.130	0.136
500	0.027	0.188	0.216	0.004	0.130	0.134
600	0.018	0.188	0.206	0.002	0.130	0.132
700	0.012	0.188	0.200	0.002	0.130	0.132
800	0.009	0.188	0.197	0.001	0.130	0.131
900	0.006	0.188	0.194	0.001	0.130	0.131
1000	0.005	0.188	0.192	0.001	0.130	0.131

Table 6. Δ_{47} and Δ_{48} data for Devils Hole cave calcite from this study, Bajnai et al. (2021), and Fiebig et al. (2021).

	Sample	Age (ka)	N	Δ_{47} I-CDES (‰)	Δ_{47} CDES 90 (‰)	Δ_{47} SE	N	Δ_{48} CDES 90 (‰)	Δ_{48} SE
This study	DH-2-10	168-176	11	0.554		0.004	16	0.236	0.020
	DH-2-11	159-167	19	0.560		0.006	17	0.196	0.009
	DH-2-12	152-162	18	0.564		0.006	16	0.243	0.008
	DH-2-13	146-156	17	0.568		0.006	19	0.261	0.014
	Average		65	0.562		0.003	68	0.234	0.007
Bajnai et al., 2021	DHC2-8	4.5-16.9	14		0.573	0.002	9	0.255	0.009
	DHC2-3	32.2-39.8	9		0.575	0.003	N is the same as for Δ_{47}	0.252	0.009
	DH-11 19.7	86.4-94.3	9		0.572	0.001		0.255	0.009
	DH-11 44.5	121.8-123.7	12		0.581	0.002		0.226	0.008
	DH-11 73.0	176.1-184.8	9		0.575	0.002		0.250	0.008
	DH-11 109.4	232.8-240.5	23		0.575	0.001		0.227	0.006
	DH-11 141.6	291.3-299.0	9		0.570	0.002		0.223	0.009
	DH-11 189.9	353.0-358.3	14		0.574	0.002		0.232	0.006
	DH-11 201.3	371.7-388.4	9		0.568	0.002		0.250	0.010
	DH-11 296.6	485.5-507.8	8		0.575	0.002		0.243	0.008
	Average		116		0.574	0.003		111	0.239
Fiebig et al., 2021	DVH-2	4.5-16.9	9	0.582		0.003	N is the same as for Δ_{47}	0.246	0.012
	DHC2-8	4.5-16.9	8	0.585		0.006		0.234	0.013
	DHC2-8	4.5-16.9	9	0.572		0.003		0.234	0.012
	DHC2-8	4.5-16.9	5	0.576		0.004		0.247	0.016
	Average		31	0.580		0.002		31	0.237
Combined average	Average		212	0.571		0.001	210	0.238	0.007