

FRESHWATER AMAZONIAN BIVALVE SHELLS AS ARCHIVE OF RIVER HYDROGEOCHEMISTRY VARIATIONS, INSIGHT FROM OXYGEN ISOTOPES

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The river oxygen isotope ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{R}$) variations, which characterize its hydrology (e.g., precipitation-evaporation balance, precipitation and river discharge patterns), can be retrieved from freshwater bivalve shell $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ analyses. We measured $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ variations across the hinge of South American unionid shells; *Anodontites elongates* collected in Peru and *A. trapesialis* in Brazil; and in the last secreted part of the ventral margin of *A. elongates* from Brazil. These last shells were grown in a homemade cage left for one year in a floodplain lake close to Manaus and collected in 2017 while the others were collected in the field from animals who died some month before. The isotopic signatures were reproducible between individuals coming from the same site. Brazilian *A. trapesialis* clearly showed a strong $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ cyclicity. In the *A. trapesialis* hinge $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ variations are in accordance with growth patterns which allow to confirm that hinge growth line corresponds to the wet season. In both shell parts, low $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ value corresponds to the wet season and reversely. The large amplitude of *A. trapesialis* shells $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ cycles are characteristic of a flood plain lake habitat, seasonally disconnected from the river and thus subjected to high seasonal fluctuations in water $\delta^{18}\text{O}$. Differently, the Peruvian *A. elongates* presented lower $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ amplitude which we suggest might indicate a habitat close to the river. Consequently, study of $\delta^{18}\text{O}_\text{S}$ variations as measured in Unionidae shells might provide an archive to reconstruct, on a seasonal scale, past and present hydrological and geochemical conditions of the Amazon and possibly other tropical freshwater environments.



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