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Water isotope variations in the global ocean model MPI-OM

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Abstract. The stable water isotopes $H_2^{18}O$ and HDO are incorporated as passive tracers into the oceanic general circulation model MPI-OM, and a control simulation under present-day climate conditions is analyzed in detail. Both $\delta^{18}O$ and δD distributions at the ocean surface and deep ocean are generally consistent with available observations on the large scale. The modelled δD - $\delta^{18}O$ relations in surface waters slightly deviates from the slope of the global meteoric water line in most basins, and a much steeper slope is detected in Arctic Oceans. The simulated deuterium excess of ocean surface waters shows small variations between 80° S and 55° N, and a strong decrease north of 55° N. The model is also able to capture the quasi-linear relationship between $\delta^{18}O$ and salinity *S*, as well as δD and *S*, as seen in observational data. Both in the model results and observations, the surface δ -*S* relations show a steeper slope in extra-tropical regions than in tropical regions, which indicates relatively more addition of isotopically depleted water at high latitudes.

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