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10, C3830-C3831, 2013

Interactive Comment

Interactive comment on "Technical Note: Weight approximation of single coccoliths inferred from retardation estimates using a light microscope equipped with a circular polariser – (the CPR Method)" by J. Bollmann

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This is a valuable contribution to methodology for studying coccoliths and contains much interesting data. It is also very timely given the widespread use of his type of technique in ocean acidification studies. I would, however, like to make a couple of comments.

Under-documentation of circular polarisation technique The CPL technique is not widely used in microscopy, and certainly not in micropalaeontology so a clear explana-

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tion of othe method is needed. in particular it is not clear if circular polarisers replace both the polariser and the analyser or only one of them. Also the reference cited Craig 1961 is both rather old and missing from the reference list.

I was interested in the citation here of the new recalculation of birefringence colours of Sorensen (2013). This is indeed a very useful reference, however, examination of it shows that the caption of fig. 1 of the BGD ms of Bollmann is incorrect. The base scale (A) is not a Raith-Sorensen chart but a Michel-Levy chart recalculated according to the method of Sorensen (2013).

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 10, 11155, 2013.

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