

Dr. Jack Middelburg
Biogeosciences
RESPONSE LETTER

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Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your positive evaluation of the revised version of our manuscript. Concerning the points you raised:

1) *The author list: you state that the first three authors contributed equally. What does that mean? each 1%? I doubt. I do understand why you do this, but please then use your author contribution statement (that you have) to specify the role of each author and the % contribution.*

We have specified the contribution of each author.

2) *p. 2, line 2: ...correlation of these parameters....*

3) *p. 3, line 5 from bottom: ... BSE imaging were used.....*

We have made the corrections.

4) *p. 6, middle of page: you present dynamic viscosity and gravity in meter units why not density as well in kg m⁻³.*

We did not change the units of the density to kg m⁻³ to keep the units of our PIC and POC values in pg/cell.

5) *Figure 6 and 7. Why don't you combine them as Fig. 6a and 6b. Moreover, in the text you cite Fig. 7a and 7b, while there is only one figure 7. Please check and correct the last part of your manuscript for consistency in this respect.*

Thank you for pointing to this inconsistency. We have carefully checked the last part and changed the figure numbers. We also included the correlation coefficient factors.

The changes that have been made in the text are indicated by the use of a green background color.

With best regards,

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