

Interactive comment on “Enhanced viral production and virus-mediated mortality of bacterioplankton in a natural iron-fertilized bloom event above the Kerguelen Plateau” by A. Malits et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This is an interesting and well-written article describing the little-studied role of viruses during phytoplankton blooms in a natural iron fertilised region of the Southern ocean. This study helps to unveil more of the key role viruses play in cycling of nutrients and how central the viral shunt is during bloom events in the open ocean. There are just a couple of minor specific points to add. L18 – P10829: As there is still a lot of debate ongoing with regards to the status of viruses in terms of being ‘living’ entities or not, it would be more appropriate to use the term ‘biological entities’. L 9-10 – P10834: – Is it correct that 250 mL seawater was concentrated using TFF or should this read litres?

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