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Interactive comment on “Introduction to the special section Bio-optical and biogeochemical conditions in the South East Pacific in late 2004: the BIOSOPE program” by H. Claustre et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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Review of " Introduction to the special section Bio-optical and biogeochemical conditions in the South East Pacific in late 2004: the BIOSOPE program " by Claustre, Sciandra, and Vaulot.

This manuscript presents clearly the physical and biogeochemical conditions that prevail in the southeastern tropical Pacific, points on its specificities, describes the objectives of the BIOSOPE cruise and how it was organized to reach them, and introduces the more specialized papers that should follow. It makes up a usefull reference for these papers which can straightforward address their specific goals. The list of references

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contains the most important ones.

I have a few minor comments :

Abstract : ...of the Chilean coast, "t"he mesotrophic... Page 606, line 20 : Large scale investigations have been initially conducted as part of the transpacific SCORPIO sections performed along 43 S and 28 S (Reid, 1973) and the Hawaii-to-Tahiti shuttle experiment (Wyrтки and Kilonsky, 1984) : prior, there were the EASTROPAC cruises carried out in 1967-68. Page 608, lines 4-11 : weak pycnocline favours the upward diffusion of nutrients while deep pycnocline makes these nutrients away from the euphotic zone. The authors mean that deepness of the pycnocline dominates over its weakness for the fueling of primary production, but they do not say it. Page 612, line 3 : High Nutrient Low Chl-a waters (HLN) : why not HNLC, which has been widely used in the litterature (and is used elsewhere in the MS)? Page 613, line 12 : "the 36.5 isohaline nearly outcropping the surface at 128W, 15 S." Outcropping suggest that high salinity waters come from depth, which is not the case : these waters form at the surface by evaporation. Page 617 line 11 : ...have been numerous and have been...

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 5, 605, 2008.

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5, S185–S186, 2008

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