

Interactive comment on “The impact of anticyclonic mesoscale structures on microbial food webs in the Mediterranean Sea” by U. Christaki et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

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Christaki et al present a nice study based on good quality data set and appropriate analyses, at least concerning the biological aspects of their work. However, the study is quite descriptive and does not allow judging the impact of mesoscale features upon the studied groups and provides only little if any explanation for the observation. Many of the presented results rely on the euphotic depth and determination of the light levels, but no information at all is given how those were determined. This needs to be changed in the revision. Some minor points are listed below: Abstract, line 4 before end P190 used but not explained P188, last line: Cyprus-Eddy P190: line 11: until analysis Line 18: FCM used but not explained Page 191: factor of 1.5kgC per mole really as high as this? P192, line 4: To explain what that I believe starting point, but

C165

maybe I'm wrong L21-24: Sentence needs to be re-formulated, as is not clear P193: add blank in front of 145 m P194 and following: do not give the corr. coefficients with 3 or 4 decimal positions, two will do as well P195, line 24: observed at the P196, line 3: concentrations being higher line 6: with three times more line 7: ciliates were more line 8:, contributing approximately line 26: were about two times P197, line 18: values at site B line 29: distinguishable only between... Page 198, line 7: MS and following pages I guess it is Mediterranean Sea? line 16: on viruses Page 199, line 1: two times Page 201, line 21: lower at site A Page 202, line 1 Cyprus-eddy line 6: than those at station Page 204, line 1: at site A

Figure 2: in this figure you are using pressure / dbar but in others depth /m make it consistent please or explain why pressure can be used for depth Figure 3 only salinity is presented but the caption refers to temperature as well Figure 8 caption: take all the abbreviations in the brackets away, no need for them as they are not used in figure itself

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