

Interactive comment on “Imbalanced nutrients as triggers for black shale formation in a shallow shelf setting during the OAE 2 (Wunstorf, Germany)” by M. Blumenberg and F. Wiese

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Received and published: 11 June 2012

We thank for the helpful comment of Manuel Weinkauf concerning the statistical analyses and illustration of parts of our data. Our data sets are limited in number, which is basically related to the time consuming biomarker approach and, thus, valid statistical data are generally hardly generated in respective multiproxy biomarker studies. As Manuel Weinkauf also stated in his comment, we just intend to illustrate a positive or negative correlation of some of our data sets (e.g. $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ with TOC) and used a linear regression calculated by SigmaPlot. This was applied in accordance with many previous comparable biomarker studies. To support that, we also gave the equations and

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R^2 , but we agree that omitting the first may help to avoid statistical overinterpretation. Moreover, we also considered Pearson Product Moment Correlations of our data sets to be integrated into the revised version. We re-calculated our data with SigmaPlot and get significant correlations with mostly good p-values considerably lower than 0.05. In a revised version of the ms, we will present these calculations.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, 5373, 2012.

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