

***Interactive comment on “Phytoplankton
distribution in unusually low sea ice cover over
the Pacific Arctic” by P. Coupel et al.***

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Dear Referee 1

We are very grateful for the detailed review of our manuscript you provided and attention taken to address these errors. You truly point out shortcut in the discussion because of the absence of statistical investigation to support the results. In this new version, we have included numerous statistical tests (Student's test and Pearson test). We think that the statistical approach has greatly improved the paper by supporting both the results section and the demonstration of the effect of environmental parameters on the phytoplankton distribution. Following your suggestion to integrate the physical characteristics in the discussion, we are able to look at the influence of the various environmental parameters on the phytoplankton distribution and not only the ice cover.

C4515

Overall, we agree with all your constructive comments and we have responded point by point. Please find your comments (in bold italics) and our responses in plain text) in the supplement pdf file.

Sincerely yours,

Pierre Coupel

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/9/C4515/2012/bgd-9-C4515-2012-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, 2055, 2012.