

Respected Prof. Natascha Töpfer:

On behalf of my co-authors, we thank you very much for giving us an opportunity to revise our manuscript. According to the comments from Prof. Manmohan Sarin, we have made modifications in the following text. We hope that the following amendments or interpretations can obtain a more accurate manuscript.

We hope that the revised manuscript could satisfy the requirements for publication in the esteemed journal. Thank you and the reviewers again.

We are looking forward to the final good news from your esteemed journal.

Sincerely yours,

Ji Hongbing

**Reply to Prof. Manmohan Sarin**

**Hongbing Ji, Cai Li, Huaijian Ding, Yang Gao**

**“Source and flux of POC in a karstic area in the Changjiang River watershed: impacts of reservoirs and extreme drought”**

**General overview:**

Overall, Authors have responded reasonably well to all the comments made by the two Referees. However, “Abstract” is still somewhat confusing and lacks clarity. Authors are suggested to make following changes in the abstract, or as they feel appropriate:

**Response:** Thank you very much for reviewing the manuscript and for the valuable suggestions. We have revised the abstract based on the suggestions.

**Comment 1.** Line 10 should read as: “Isotope data for suspended sediments indicate that POC was mainly derived from .....

**Response:** Thank you for the valuable suggestion. The corresponding changes in the abstract have been made.

**Comment 2.** Line 14, change to: ..... carbon pools are tightly coupled.

**Response:** Thank you for the valuable suggestion. The related words have been revised.

**Comment 3.** Line 14 should read as: Our conservative estimate suggests that  $1.17 \times 10^{10}$  g of POC is transported to the Three Gorges Reservoir during the study period in 2013.

**Response:** Thank you for the valuable suggestion. According to the suggestion, we have revised the related sentence.

**Comment 4.** Line 15 change to: .....was much lower than large rivers with high abundance of carbonate minerals.

**Response:** Thank you for the valuable suggestion. The corresponding words have been revised.

**Comment 5.** Line 16 should read as: Based on the distribution pattern of POC yield, it is inferred that carbonate minerals (lithology) do not contribute significantly to the riverine POC.

**Response:** Thank you for the valuable suggestion. According to the suggestion, we have revised the corresponding sentence.

Other change:

Line 20 Page 6 and Line 7 Page 8: “(unpublished data)” has been changed to “(Li and Ji, 2016)”. The values of  $\delta^{13}\text{C-DIC}$ ,  $\delta^{15}\text{N-NO}_3^-$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O-NO}_3^-$  in the Wujiang River are recently published in the study of Li and Ji (2016). Therefore, the related reference is added.