

Dear Editor,

We are grateful that you have appreciated the effort to improve this work.

Your technical corrections and comments are in plain font and our responses are in italic and blue font. The revised version of the manuscript with marked changes is also provided.

L19: Please use the math symbol \times , not the alphabet x.

This has been corrected (L19)

L38: Add a period immediately after spp (i.e., spp.).

This has been corrected (L38)

L76: Insert a space immediately before Fuhrman.

This has been corrected (L76)

L169–170: Please cite a reference for the absorption coefficient of pure Chl-a standard.

This has been corrected (L170)

L178–179: Gasol and Del Giorgio (2000)

This has been corrected (L179)

L189: The symbol of minus is different from those at L198 and L203. So please amend it.

This has been corrected (L189)

L245–L247: Please cite references for the forward and reverse primer pairs for prokaryotes and eukaryotes.

Both references has been included (L245;L247)

L302: Not chl-a, but Chl-a.

This has been corrected (L302)

L311: Please use R^2 (cf. see L1037).

This has been corrected (L311)

L468: Use a semi-colon between 2012 and Barber-Lluch.

This has been corrected (L468)

L536: Use an en dash for 0.1–10.

This has been corrected (L536)

L982: inorganic

This has been corrected (L996)

L1005: The “a” in Chlorophyll-a should be italic.

This has been corrected (L1020)

Figures 2 and 5: The “a” in Chl-a should be italic following the text.

This has been changed

Additionally, references has been revised and Table 1 has been included in the text (L985).