

Dear Prof. Silvio Pantoja,

Thanks for your comment. After two round reviews, the article is accepted except for a minor comment about the abstract: it is better to remove the sentence “Given the uniqueness of the Marina Trench, we recommend more studies for different trenches and shallow regions in order to holistically understand the biosynthesis and environmental control of brGDGTs.”(line 24-26) since it is such a general statement that does not belong to the Abstract section. This is a good suggestion, So I removed the sentence in line 24-26: Please see the revised manuscript for the details.

Regards-Yunping

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