

Comments from handling editor

Dear Drs. Marina, Saravia and Kortsch,

Thank you for the submission of the revised version of your manuscript. You answered satisfactorily to the comments by the referees and now the manuscript is almost ready for publication in Ocean Science. Below I am adding a list with some final technical comments which I encourage you to account for in the submission of the final version of your manuscript.

Technical comments:

L81 The dashed line contours in Figure 1 do not show 74-78°S, but rather 70-76°S. What is the actual research area? It is also not clear which are the boundaries of the area. Please define those.

L86 I think the description of the data of the foodweb is incomplete. It would be good to have an example of which information is available for every species. As it is now, the authors wrote about “information, such as ...” which means that there is much more in the data set, right? We should be able to see all of this information.

L95 delete: (Antarctica)

L209 Is this 10-15 kg?

L241 I suggest: This finding may also be used to validate our method.

L271 Ainley (typo)

L288 Is this 10-15 kg?

L303 for (typo)

L355 23- 35, 2002.

L373 volume missing

L436 volume and pages missing

L444 Montoya, J. M.,

L465 and Savage, V. M.:

Figure 3 Please use format like 10-4

Figure 4 Mentioned in the caption are panels A, B and C. Please also describe panel D and explain what is shown.

With best wishes

Mario Hoppema

Reply to editor

Firstly, we would like to recognize the effort of the current handling editor, Mario Hoppema, for taking over the edition of our manuscript.

We have modified figures 1, 2 and 4 according to the editor's suggestions. Regarding figure 1, we have added a black star indicating the approximate region of the study area and changed the caption of the figure to clarify this issue: “Map of the Weddell Sea and

Dronning Maud Land sector indicating the approximate location of the study area (black star, 74-78°S) within the high Antarctic shelf”. Regarding figure 4, we have added the following text to the caption: “Panel (D) shows the distribution of the species' median interaction strength by habitat”.

Regarding comment on L86, we have modified the text accordingly as follows: “In addition to predator-prey interactions, the database contains information on other biological data: mean body mass and length, and movement and metabolic type for each species in the food web. Furthermore, it incorporates information about the interaction itself: type (predacious, herbivorous and detritivorous) and dimension (2 or 3 dimensions according to the predator search space)”.

The other minor changes were incorporated as suggested.

Sincerely,
Tomás I. Marina on behalf of all authors