

Response to the editor

We appreciate Prof. Chris R Stokes (the handling editor) for the time in processing and reviewing our manuscript. Below, we give a point-by-point response to the comments and suggestions of the editor, in the order of (1) comments from editor, and (2) author's response (editor comments in black; **author's response in blue**).

Editor's comments:

Dear Guitao and co-authors,

Thank you for your prompt and clear response to the reviewer comments. You have addressed their very minor comments and I'm delighted to accept the manuscript, subject to some technical corrections detailed below (line numbers refer to version with changes tracked):

Line 47: This sentence may be clearer as: "Thus far, debris-free [...] for the purpose of paleoclimate studies (Table 1 and Figure 1): Mount...."

Author's response

Corrected.

Line 90: "Based on visual inspection, there are..."

Author's response

Corrected.

Line 198: "...suggesting that the blue ice originated nearby."

Author's response

Corrected.

Line 203: "...located upstream of the ice flow, where the ice stream was blocked by the nunataks, similar to the drilling sites..."

Author's response

Corrected.

Line 205: "...in the Grove Mountains BIA..."

Author's response

Corrected.

Line 215: "...i.e., easier access to the oldest ice."

Author's response

Corrected.