Dear Dr., Florent Domine,

Thank you very much for the review of our manuscript. We agree with the reviewer's point about the non-microbial aspects. We do not have data on the snow temperature or water content at the time of sampling, and no more sampling was conducted even in 2024. In this revision, we added a new Supplementary Figure S1 which took photos of every cross section of all snow samples to check for the distribution of ice layers. We hope that all of you agree. We also added detailed information based on the comments of the reviewer regarding the lack of detailed description of the method including the property of the snowpack, and the discussion. With these corrections, we believe that the revised version will be closer to the reviewer's ideal manuscript. Thank you once again for your consideration of our paper.

Sincerely,

On behalf of all authors

madate on