

Dear Dr. Naeher,

Thank you for your final evaluation of our paper. To complete the above requested change, we have re-written the beginning of section 4.5.2 Microbial community reconstruction of lipidomes (lines 416 to 419) to read:

“Although significant limits exist to the extent to which lipid distributions can resolve source organism taxonomy, they nonetheless still mark a quantitative measure of archaeal activity. In this study the resolve Scotian Slope lipidomes indicate systematic vertical change in archaeal microbial communities:”

Kind regards,

Todd Ventura