

Responses to “technical corrections” by the editor:

The editor pointed out that “ablation” should not be a negative value since the word already implies that it is an ice loss. We have gone through the manuscript to use the term “surface mass balance” where the respective value has a negative sign, or change the sign when using “ablation”.

L 81, 82: we removed a sentence part as suggested by editor and fixed parentheses in citation L113: kept wording as is. The editor suggested “perpendicular to” but we feel that “plane with the ice surface” better reflects what we are trying to express. The stakes are drilled so that the end of the stake is more or less plane with the surface, i.e. not sticking out much. We are happy to change it if the editor or copy editors feel that perpendicular is better.

L292: Clarified following editor suggestion: “The stake positions are not expected to become snow free on exactly the same dates due to varying snow melt patterns”

L300: changed section heading to “Correlations between albedo and ablation in the WSS summit region” following editor suggestion

L312: shortened phrase following editor suggestion

Table 4: added a footnote to indicate the value affected by a data gap (editor suggested italics - this is also fine for us if better in keeping with journal format)

L523: Slightly changed this sentence to remove repetition following editor suggestion.