

Review manuscript egusphere-2025-501

General comments

Seo et al. present a very useful study on how the preprocessing, storage and filtration of seawater samples for FDOM measurements affects the results. This work has great value to the community, and somewhat surprising such studies have not been (to my knowledge) conducted to this degree. It's well written and concise. I recommend this is published with minor revision, which are largely to improve the clarity of presentations and provide the reader with some more useful details, as per below.

→ Thank you for your valuable comments. In the revised manuscript, we carefully incorporated the comments below to improve clarity.

In the attached annotated ms. provided several comments and suggestions, which largely would improve the clarity of presentation. For the reader it's much beneficial if some more details are given on several aspects of the methods used. Some key points include;

Provide the reader with the exact make and type of membrane filter used. Please also make sure the diameter of the filters is noted, since the volumes used for washing might be dependent on the filter size (surface area), and thus the reader needs to know how the used washing volumes relate to filter surface area.

→ Additional information related to the membrane filter has been added to the revised manuscript.

Provide clearly (in a table), the initial concentrations of CDOM and FDOM in the filtered and unfiltered samples. This helps the reader judge the type of samples that have been used.

→ The initial concentrations have been provided in a table for clarification.

It would be also valuable to show whether CDOM changed over the same period of time, as this could affect the inner filter correction.

→ The absorbance data from the samples will be provided in the revised version.

Any ancillary data that could tell about particle loading (e.g. CHLA, POC, etc.) in the samples used in the study would be also very valuable for the reader to evaluate how particle loading might have affected the results obtained.

→ Unfortunately, no ancillary data were available for the samples in this study.

When in the field, sometimes neither distilled water nor HCL is available or practical to use, then the procedure would be to use sample water to pre-rinse the filter. Would this not be as efficient as using either of the above?

→ Pre-rinsing the filter with the sample water can be considered as one of the available methods. This recommendation has been added to the revised version.

Several technical comments/suggestions are in the attached annotated ms.

→ The comments have been carefully addressed and incorporated into the revised manuscript.