

Dear Dr. Suzuki,

Thank you very much for your careful and thorough review of our revised manuscript, and for your kind words about our work. We have addressed your two remaining points as described below.

Comment 1: Storage duration and cold chain:

Thank you for raising this point and for the suggested reference. We have added language to Section 2.3 clarifying that samples are received at the GSFC facility stored in liquid nitrogen, as per field collection protocol recommendations, and transferred to -80°C freezer storage upon arrival pending analysis. Samples identified as having thawed during shipping were excluded from the dataset. We have also noted that analysis within one year of sample collection is the facility's target practice, consistent with recommended best practices for pigment preservation in frozen filters (Sosik, 1999; Van Heukelem et al., 2002; Mantoura et al., 1997), and that the effect of storage duration on precision was not systematically evaluated in this study as the metadata required to do so were not uniformly available across the full dataset. We believe this addresses your concern in a manner consistent with the scope of the study.

Comment 2: Typos:

Thank you for the careful reading; we have corrected all identified typos in the revised manuscript.

Once again, thank you for your time, your expertise, and your patience throughout this review process. We hope this final revision meets your expectations and we look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Joaquín E. Chaves On behalf of the co-authors