

Dear Editor/ Dear Mario,

Thanks for the final comments to our revised manuscript, which requested minor revisions. Please find attached the revised manuscript in which I have addressed all of your comments except the following (which I believe is based on misunderstanding): "L289-292 "However, using a multi-parameter linear regression with SST and SSS as independent parameters improved the regression statistics considerably ( $R^2=0.90$ ;  $n=23$ ;  $rmse=13.0 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ) compared to a linear regression with only SSS ( $R^2=0.67$ ;  $n=23$ ;  $rmse=24.0 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ ).” Isn't this an artefact as SSS is derived from SST?". I would like to bring to your attention that the TA-SSS/SST relationship (Eq. 2) is based on regression between TA and measured SSS AND SST. Thus, the including the SST as regression parameter improves the regression because SST adds more independent information about the variations. Therefore, I chose not to address the above comment in the revised manuscript.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for handling the manuscript and helping us improve it, we appreciate your constructive comments/suggestions and encouragement.

Best Regards,  
Abdir