

Dear Dr. Hoppema,

Thank you very much for helping improve our manuscript and accepting it.

When I uploaded files, I noticed that there was a term named “Author's certification” in the submission system, which said that “I herewith certify that the content (e.g. text, figures, equations, or tables) of all files uploaded in this form is exactly the same as the version of my manuscript accepted by the Topic Editor.” But here we want to clarify that we actually made some slight changes in figures and the main text following the submission guideline.

([https://www.ocean-science.net/for\\_authors/submit\\_your\\_manuscript.html](https://www.ocean-science.net/for_authors/submit_your_manuscript.html)).

Specific changes:

**Figure 1:** We added legends which clarified all symbols in the figure.

**Figure 10:** We added a legend to clarify the star symbols in this figure. And we also changed the format and font of the longitude and latitude labels to make them consistent with other figures.

**In the main text:** We added a space between degree sign and the direction to the coordinates (e.g. 19.7° N, 115.6° E). And we numbered the equations with Arabic numerals in parentheses on their right-hand side.

We didn't make any changes in the main content of figures and the main text.

Best wishes

Chuan Qin