Introduction

1. (p7678 L4) What is the difference between "LCs" and "LC (Line 8)"? Is this a misspelling?
2. (p7679 L12) Check the position of "-" in "eutrophic-water" and "oligo-trophic water"
3. Recheck the reference and citation.

Material and methods

1. (p7680 L8) CTD (conductivity temperature device) => (conductivity temperature depth)
2. (p7680 L14) Coccolith data analyses => Data analysis
3. What is your method for identification of coccolithophorid species? Please add the identification method (method and references).

Result

1. What is the difference between “off-sea” and “off-shore”?
2. (p7682 L7) is formed => was formed
3. (p7682 L7) Section A => section A (change a lower case letter)
4. (p7681 L24 ~ p7682 L3) Thus both ~ the East China Sea areas. I think this sentence needs reference with supportive reasons.

Discussion

1. (p7687 L15) dominated => dominant
2. (p7691 L1) en- vironmental factors => environmental factors
3. It will be best discussion and conclusion if you add the opinions from the point of climate change view into your discussion and conclusion.

Figures

1. (p7699) In caption of fig. 1, A section => section A (turn around the order in
other sections)

2. In all of contours in your figures, it is difficult to recognize the difference of data level (in higher part – red and orange color part) by your color index set. Generally the red color represents higher level than the orange and yellow color in a contour map or plots. I suggest the change of color scale in the contour plots of your figures.