Interactive comment on “Confocal Raman microscopy as a tool to describe different mineral and organic phases at high spatial resolution within marine biogenic carbonates: case study on Nerita undata (Gastropoda, Neritopsina)” by G. Nehrke and J. Nouet

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Received and published: 1 August 2011

This paper (Confocal Raman microscopy as a tool to describe different mineral and organic phases at high spatial resolution within marine biogenic carbonates: case study on Nerita undata (Gastropoda, Neritopsina) is mainly dedicated to the ability of Raman spectroscopy to analyse biominerals. The authors have detected some “polyenes” in the shell. Similar components have been already described in mollusc shells: Høeggaard et al. 2006, Trinkler et al. 2011. Beta carotene is a polyene compound, and it is well known that Raman is very sensitive to carotene.

Do the authors believe that such components are preserved in fossil shells, and are possible palaeoproxies?

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Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 8, 5563, 2011.