

Dear editor,

We would like to thank again referee #1 for his careful reading of our manuscript and for his positive opinion on our work. We have addressed all the points raised by the referee and as suggested, we have rewritten the abstract and the conclusion in order to better highlight our findings. All changes can be seen in the Author's track-changes file attached. We hope that you will find our work suitable for publication in The cryosphere.

One delicate question arose. A young colleague of ours has help us on this project. While we initially thought that his contribution was not decisive enough to include him as an author, things have evolved with the revised version and we now believe that he would deserve to be a co-author. We have include him in the list of authors. Please feel free to let us know if you think that this last-minute change is an issue.

Best regards,

The authors