

## ***Interactive comment on “The physical and chemical characteristics of marine organic aerosols: a review” by B. Gantt and N. Meskhidze***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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I am glad to have been given the opportunity to review this article. I did so because I have a strong interest in the field, and as such, it is important to me that the literature be clear, comprehensive, and considered critically. This review gave me the opportunity to delve deeply into some recent research with a much more critical eye than my recent work has permitted. Through this, I have learned much, and am appreciative. As such, though, I spend a considerable amount of time in this review. There are parts towards the end where I just was unable to put the effort into it that was put into earlier sections. Forgive me for this.

This review addresses an important albeit poorly understood area of atmospheric chemistry and physics. The research community has actively investigated the production of marine aerosols for many decades and recent comprehensive reviews have

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emerged [Lewis and Schwartz, 2004; deLeuw et al., 2012]. The author's manuscript attempts to contribute to this body work through additional synthesis of recent work. The obvious question arises, does this review manuscript represent a substantive contribution that provides new insight beyond that which is already available through these other efforts?

My comments are included in the attached PDF file.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.atmos-chem-phys-discuss.net/12/C8558/2012/acpd-12-C8558-2012-supplement.pdf>

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 12, 21779, 2012.

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