Dear Dr. Khosrawi:

We have implemented all the last few corrections you suggested, with the exception of the footnote on page 10, which we have left untouched. We hope that the Copernicus editorial office will allow us to keep it.

We are very appreciative for the great care with which you have handled our manuscript, and we take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude.

With our very warmest regards,

lorenzo polvani Columbia University