

## ***Interactive comment on “Salinity changes and anoxia resulting from enhanced runoff during the late Permian global warming and mass extinction event” by Elsbeth E. van Soelen et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #1**

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This paper documents nicely the potential of the process length of acritarchs as a palaeo-proxy for salinity.

After a first version of this manuscript, submitted to another journal, where the main problem was an over-interpretation of the results, the present version clearly points out the potential of morphology studies of organic-walled microphytoplankton for tracking ancient salinity of temperature changes.

This is still very much hypothetical, but the study is been carried out with precision, and the results show a clear trend. It is made clear that the interpretations have to take with caution. This study should be published; these results will surely stimulate further

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investigations!

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Interactive comment on Clim. Past Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/cp-2017-136>, 2017.

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