 Reviewer #1: This is a review of the section "i. Global ocean phytoplankton" by Franz et al.  
Overall, the section is very well written, clear and relevant, in continuity with previous issues. I just have some minor comments provided below.  
  
l.1007-1008: after years of VIIRS and OLCI data (by 4 platforms), mentioning only SeaWiFS and MODIS starts sounding a bit outdated.  
l.1033: the anomaly maps (Fig. 3.24) appear very noisy, particularly at high latitudes. Any comment? Does it tell something about the ocean color record, or natural variability itself ?  
l.1040: "with more often elevated…", or similar. Indeed, there is quite some variability in this result. Similarly, the "inverse" distribution for Cphy is far from obvious.  
l.1061-62: "consistent with..": a word or a reference might be needed here for non experts.  
l.1062: "outside PSO": this is actually the only sentence focusing on regions poleward of the PSO, and I feel that the overall section is very much biased towards the PSO. Is there a reason for this?  
l.1097 / 1110: "which were relatively flat" / "unchanged": I don't really see that, with the anomaly going from ~+3% to -4%.  
l.2225: so, this is actually an annual anomaly?