

Ocean Sci. Discuss., author comment AC2
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Response to Referee #1

David Webb

Author comment on "On the low western Pacific sea levels observed prior to strong East Pacific El Niños" by David J. Webb, Ocean Sci. Discuss.,
<https://doi.org/10.5194/os-2021-5-AC2>, 2021

Many thanks for reviewing this paper and for your comments. In response to your main points:

1. On the question of the figures, I agree about the problem with the review version of the manuscript. You may find the two column version better structured - a copy is available as a supplementary document in my response to the first reviewer. The layout of the final published version could be similar.
2. Change of title. Fine.
3. I take your point. The trouble here is that I did not realise the importance of the local wind field when the study started. It might seem a bit odd to focus on the local wind field in the introduction and then to forget about it until the last few sections of the paper. Maybe a bit at the beginning and more near the end would be better.
4. I accept you point about the figures in the review manuscript. However if you examine the two column version you will see that they are sensibly grouped - but not quite in the way you suggest. Further feedback would be welcome.
5. As in my response for the first reviewer good satellite data is available for the 1997-98 episode. The comparison of key features during that period show good agreement between the NEMO model and observations. It was on this basis that I used the NEMO model results as the check datasets in the model validation section.

Unfortunately I know of no comparable set of sea level and sea surface temperature datasets covering the 1982-1983 period.

Minor comments;

1. Typos. Thanks.
2. Good point.
3. Ditto.
4. Will correct.

Regards,

David Webb.