

Weather Clim. Dynam. Discuss., author comment AC1
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Comment on wcd-2022-19

Adrian Simmons

Author comment on "Trends in the tropospheric general circulation from 1979 to 2022" by
Adrian J. Simmons, Weather Clim. Dynam. Discuss.,
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A point missing in the submitted preprint is that although many of the trends examined in the paper appear to be quite uniform over the period of study, this is not the case for the strengthening and expansion of the tropical upper-tropospheric easterlies. These particular changes occur predominantly over the first 25 or so years of the period, with little change or even a slight reversal thereafter. This fits with arguments in the literature that some changes in tropical circulation observed in the past few decades have been manifestations of natural variability and accordingly not inconsistent with climate projections showing opposite changes. The point can be taken care of with minor changes to the text and to two or three figures.