

## Response to comments from co-editor

I think the authors have done a very thorough job to address the many valid comments of the two reviewers and the paper is much improved now. I have only a few minor technical points that need to be addressed:

*We thank the co-editor for the careful review of our revised manuscript and for the constructive feedback. Our point-by-point responses to the review comments are provided below.*

- 1) In the abstract you introduce ENSO and IOD now without defining the acronyms.  
*Thank you for pointing this out. The expanded forms of ENSO and IOD have been added to the abstract in the revised version.*
- 2) L586 says Figures S4 and S4. Please correct!  
*Thank you, corrected in the revised version.*
- 3) L588: use commas for relative clause to improve readability.  
*Done.*
- 4) L635: Which length?  
*It is seasonal length, corrected in the revised version.*