

I congratulate the authors for the substantial changes they have performed in the manuscript. I believe the updated version is more coherent and especially the discussion section is more clear than before. Therefore I recommend publication, after a few very minor comments below are addressed

Minor comments:

Lines 110-113: They better moved after line 99 because there meaning is closer to that paragraph.

Lines 191: Is there a reason why the fixed43yr was not used here for the calculations of ocean heat content anomalies? If so, this has to be justified somewhere. Also it has not been used anywhere in the analysis after that (e.g. in the Cape Verde analysis) and no justification was provided for this.

Line 624: “These MHWs are not be necessarily caused by..”