

Interactive comment on “Low frequency variability in North Sea and Baltic Sea identified through simulations with the 3-d coupled physical-biogeochemical model ECOSMO” by Ute Daewel and Corinna Schrum

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 9 May 2017

This manuscript is about a statistical evaluation of a numerical simulation of the coupled system North Sea and Baltic Sea. The model used is a 3D ocean model coupled with a marine biogeochemical model. The model simulation spans the period 1948-2008. EOF technique has been used as the statistical method. Main aim of the study was to identify environmental drivers causing low frequency variability and to explore possible cause-effect relationships.

The experimental setup is adequate for the research questions. The manuscript is well written and concise, and conclusions are drawn in a comprehensive manner. I would

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recommend a publication after a “minor revision”.

I suggest a careful proof-reading of the text to eliminate inconsistencies, e.g. the use of inter-annual vs. interannual vs. intra-annual. Page 3, line 21: I cannot agree with this statement or something is missing.

Some figures need corrections: Fig. 4 axis label: I suggest to use “CL50-59 CL60-69 ...” Figs. 4,8,9,.. axis labels: Use time instead of Zeit.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., doi:10.5194/esd-2017-36, 2017.

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