

Dear Editor,

we are grateful for your thorough reading of our manuscript. We have included all your corrections. In addition to that we included a short paragraph about our co-author Christian Dieterich after the header of the paper:

During the time in which this paper was prepared, shortly before acceptance, Christian Dieterich passed away (1964-2021). This sad event marked the end of the life of a distinguished oceanographer and climate scientist who made important contributions to the climate modeling of the Baltic Sea, North Sea and North Atlantic regions.

**Comments to the Author:  
Gröger et al 2021 technical/editorial corrections**

**I20 remove double word "on"**  
done.

**I575 in the coupled model**  
fixed: word "in" is now included.

**I584 during winter**  
fixed: under → during winter

**I708 extend**  
fixed: extent → extend

**I733 the most**  
done.

**I735 at the**  
done.

**I740 The thermodynamical**  
done.

**I740 the classical**  
done.

**I745 the vertical structure**  
done.

**I746 The one layer**  
done.

**I749 The momentum**  
done.

**I761 The third**  
done.

**I789 the authors**

**I856 this needs**  
done.

**I861-864 Difficult sentence. Please rephrase.**  
Fixed: We splitted the sentince into 2 sentences. It now reads:

However, a general statement about model performance of coupled versus standalone models can not be drawn as many studies showed added value of coupling especially in those cases when the uncoupled model was driven by low quality forcing data (Tian et al., 2013; Gröger et al., 2015; Ho-Hagemann, 2017). Furthermore, and the uncoupled models often had a lower resolution at the air sea boundary.

**I886 leads to**  
done.

**I935 at the**  
done.

**I955 in the Baltic**  
done.

**I991 play a warming**  
done.

**I998 in the summer**  
done.

**I1127 feasible to couple**  
done.

**I1127 computational**  
done.

**I1224 aerosols**  
done.

**I1270 Fragment: "On the road to"**  
fixed: The fragment is removed now.