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Interactive comment on “ENSO surface shortwave radiation forcing over the tropical Pacific” by K. G. Pavlakis et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The paper "ENSO surface shortwave radiation forcing over the tropical Pacific" by Pavlakis et al adds the shortwave component to their earlier study, published in this journal, which examined ENSO surface longwave radiation forcing. The paper is fine, but the results basically corroborate previously published work regarding the evolution of ENSO induced changes in atmospheric circulation, outgoing longwave radiation, and precipitation. The study would have been more complete and possibly more interesting if the authors would have added a more substantial temporal and spatial analysis of ENSO's effect on the NET surface radiation budget (SW and LW).

1. More discussion on the physical connection between DSR and ENSO, especially in the abstract and conclusions. The abstract is too detailed.

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2. I'm concerned about the short record (in particular the exclusion of the 1982-83 El Niño). This probably can't be helped, but does add some uncertainty to the results.

3. I disagree that 7-15N is "subtropical". Please rename the box defined by 7-15N; 150-170E.

4. I have a few grammatical suggestions:

a. Page 6702, line 22, "and the DLR anomaly was found to be a useful..."

b. Page 6706, line 12, "near" instead of "around"

c. Page 6708, line 15, add "area" after neighbouring

d. Page 6711, line 14, "There is an excellent anti-correlation between the Niño-3.4 index (a sea parameter) and DSR-A over two neighbouring regions: the Niño-3.4 region and the central Pacific region. The latter reflects..."

Interactive comment on *Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss.*, 8, 6697, 2008.

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