

## ***Interactive comment on “Dynamical modes associated with the Antarctic ozone hole” by B. C. Weare***

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Table 2 shows that the co-variability associated with the "symmetric" mode is not overwhelming. In fact the next three modes explain a total of more than twice as much. The top of Fig. 3 also indicates that the trend is actually less important than the year-to-year variability in the first mode. Thus the trend in this mode is not overwhelming the analysis.

Modes 3 and 4, which do not have discernible trends (not shown), are also associated with a quasi-symmetric and asymmetric mode, respectively. These modes are also likely degenerate. Thus, a mixing of quasi symmetric and asymmetric modes does not seem to be tied solely to the temporal trends.

I believe that an important conclusion of this analysis, including the case study, is that

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the yearly variability is indeed dominated by this mixture of modes. Removing the trend might be useful, but would also oversimplify the problem.

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Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., 9, 5055, 2009.

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