

Interactive comment on “On the role of the south Pacific subtropical high at the onset of El Niño events” by Youjia Zou and Xiangying Xi

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Received and published: 29 May 2018

Dear Colleague,

We would like to talk more about your comments:

1. the westerly wind fetch (in meridional extent) in south of equator during El Niño events is broad, extending to about 15S (Fedorov et al., 2014). If the eastward current along the equator were induced by these westerly winds, it should be as wide as the meridional wind fetch, inconsistent with the satellite observations (a relatively narrow branch).
2. southward shift of the ECC along with the Trade winds is plausible and is easier than a reverse of the SEC.

3. the coincidence of an absence of the ECC in previous latitudes (5N~8N) and an emergence of a new eastward current along the equator is likely to be suggestive of a southward shift of the ECC.

wish it helpful for your further understanding

Best Regards

Interactive comment on Atmos. Chem. Phys. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/acp-2018-82>, 2018.

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Discussion paper

