

## ***Interactive comment on “Synchronicity of historical dry spells in the Southern Hemisphere” by D. C. Verdon-Kidd and A. S. Kiem***

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This paper is short and succinct and addresses an important issue. It is generally well written and I recommend that it is accepted with minor revision.

The minor corrections include:

Pg 14572 L 23: insert the word "the" before "southwest" Pg 14573 L 16: I suggest removing the word "reliable". Rainfall data is notoriously fairly unreliable and its reliability is not tested in this study.

Pg 14575 L12: This paper contains many acronyms. Please make sure that all acronyms are explained/expanded the first time they are used. For example sea sur-

C7462

face temperature (SST) is not explained/expanded. There may be others that I have missed.

Pg 14576 L4: the acronym AAO needs to be explained/expanded.

Pg 14578 L15: add a comma after the word "South America"

Pg 14580 L7: I suggest removing the brackets and incorporating its contents into the sentence.

Fig 1: The rainfall stations for "southern Africa" are all located in the country South Africa. Southern Africa would include, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Swaziland, Lesotho, Namibia and possibly Mozambique. Therefore, in the text of your paper, you should probably change "southern Africa" to "South Africa"

Fig 3: This may seem pedantic, but in the figure description, the stations are referred to for each "continent". However, New Zealand is not a separate continent.

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C7463