Interactive comment on “Comparing tide gauge observations to regional patterns of sea-level change (1961–2003)” by A. B. A. Slangen et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

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The authors present a budget for the global mean sea level. Although (as they mention) it has already been closed, the authors concentrate on regional scales. The authors compared tidal gauge data to regional patterns of sea-level and studied 5 candidate mechanisms (land ice, steric, GIA, terrestrial water storage, and atmospheric loading) to determine their individual contribution to the mean sea level.

This is a worthy and useful contribution which I think should be published after a minor revision. The paper is very well written and presented and I found no minor issues with it.

I felt, however, that we need to see the uncertainties in each the contributions (as well as a total – as shown in Fig.8a) and in the TG data. This would give a sound base on which to view the global findings, especially since we sometimes look at relatively small numbers.

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Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Dynam. Discuss., 5, 169, 2014.