Interactive comment on “Dating Hiatuses: A Statistical Model of the Recent Slowdown in Global Warming – and the Next One” by J. Isaac Miller and Kyungskik Nam

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 10 May 2019

Global warming has long attracted the attention of the climate research community, but also socioeconomic fields, for its expected huge impacts on the Earth’s climate and our living environments. To date, we have not yet sufficiently understood the physical mechanisms accounting for the causality between warming and anthropogenic and natural processes. Although the existing studies using numerical models have provided important information for understanding global warming and climate change, the known inadequacy, uncertainties, and biases in models make us today still not clearly understand warming mechanisms by model alone. This study used a semiparametric statistical regression model, and proposed a new oceanic multidecadal oscillation index measuring the multibasin contribution to global mean temperature, to date and attribute
the temperature hiatus from the perspective of physical processes and statistical features. The approaches and results are helpful to further our knowledge of the warming temperature oscillations and climate change. As is known, the biggest disagreement with hiatus comes from data uncertainty. So the usefulness of this study lies in the worthy addition to our study approaches and thinking perspectives for global warming. Regarding the projections, the credibility is not enough to support our policy-making, instead add risks thereof. So the suggestion is that authors limit the implications of this study in the range of study methodology and perspective, and include a caveat of uncertainty in the projection into the conclusion section.