

***Interactive comment on “Antarctic sea ice  
variability and trends, 1979–2010” by  
C. L. Parkinson and D. J. Cavalieri***

**C. L. Parkinson and D. J. Cavalieri**

claire.l.parkinson@nasa.gov

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Response to Reviewer 1. We very much appreciate the reviewer's comments that: (1) the paper provides useful information, (2) the paper is well-written, (3) the data we present "are considered by the community to be high-quality, authoritative data" and are of higher quality than similar data sets presented by a variety of other sources, and (4) the paper "is acceptable for publication". While we accept the reviewer's point that in the future further updates of this record could be done through posting results online rather than through another peer-reviewed paper, at the same time we are concerned about eliminating the peer-review process, especially in view of the confusion caused by the large number and variety of data sets now posted on line. Hence we encourage the movement afoot within some elements of the research and data-processing com-

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munities to institute something akin to peer review or 'certification' for data sets. Finally, we appreciate the reviewer's suggestions of future revisions in the data handling, some of which we are currently seeking funding for.

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Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 6, 931, 2012.