

Author's response for the handling Editor

Dear Dr. Kaleschke,

I am very grateful for the outcome of the review process. Please find below a few minor comments regarding the present revision.

I have a final request: This reviewer has gone to great lengths to raise the quality of my manuscript, through multiple long referee reports with detailed suggestions for improvements. As a consequence, the present revision has changed substantially from my initial submission, all to the better. I have been a co-author to several papers when contributing less than this reviewer. So I'm asking you to approach the reviewer and offer him/her to become a co-author on this paper. (Fees will be paid in full by my institution.)

Should this invitation be accepted, the information in the manuscript where authors and their contributions are mentioned will obviously need to be modified.

Best regards,
Arne Melsom

Author's comments

I have adjusted the manuscript in all places where recommended. Note that in some places I have changed the suggestions for consistency with the existing text, e.g. writing *analyzed* (not *analysed* [L98]), *mismatch* (not *mis-match* [Sect.3.2; L267-268]), *validation* (not *verification* [Sect.3.2]). I also have made some additional minor modifications to some suggestions, these can all be easily identified in the "diff" file. But I must underscore that generally, introducing the suggested changes has led to an improved manuscript.

There is one place where I must admit that I'm very much in doubt. This is the suggestion

line 246: start the sentence with "Whereas, the ranges..."

This is a case of one statement followed by another. In this case, the second statement is a modification of the first statement. It is not the opposite of the first statement, and my English skills are insufficient to decide whether or not *Whereas* is correct in this context. I decided to follow the reviewer's advice in the present revision.