

Interactive comment on “DynVarMIP: Assessing the Dynamics and Variability of the Stratosphere-Troposphere System” by Edwin P. Gerber and Elisa Manzini

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Reply to SC4: 'Inferring the large scale stratospheric circulation', C. Garfinkel

We agree that the age of air provides valuable – and complementary information – on the stratospheric circulation. The age of air had been on our list of diagnostics in an earlier version of the MIP, but removed upon concern to overburden modeling centers that might not already compute the age. We have added it back to our data request, but at a priority 2 level: it is highly recommended, but not required for participation in the MIP. In the text we propose that the age can be computed with a “clock tracer” and provide references to explain why this is valuable for our understanding of the stratospheric circulation.

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