

## ***Interactive comment on “ESMValTool v2.0 – Technical overview” by Mattia Righi et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #2**

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This paper amply demonstrates that the the developers of ESMValTool have made very good choices for the path by which the tool has evolved. Significant improvements have been made to extend capabilities (regridding, linking external tools), improve performance and simplify the user experience while expanding the general capabilities of the system.

While v2.0 is not strictly backwards compatible with v1.0, the paper amply justifies those aspects where some users may have to make changes. E.g. stricter CF compliance for input data sets is now required.

The authors have also made excellent choices with regard to distinguishing software engineering standards for core functionality vs user-provided extensions. The responsibility for strong testing requirements for the core lies with professionals and like minded end-users, while still enabling the more general scientific end-user to share

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custom diagnostics with the community.

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Interactive comment on Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-2019-226>, 2019.

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