Letter to the Topical Editor

Dear Ignacio Pisso,

Thank you so much for your quick response, and the details on how to get to a finalized manuscript. We sincerely hope that it can be published soon now, before our software goes into release 6 and we can start with adapting the paper all over again.

In detail, here is our response to the corrections you listed:

L59

both software package can be seen as natural -> both software packages can be seen as natural  $\rightarrow$  done

## L66

"and have implemented first steps towards integrating full MESSy support into ESM-Tools, hoping to complete this process by release 5.0 (planned for October 2020)." This paper is supposed to already describe v5.0 now.  $\rightarrow$  removed the date, as not much interest is shown in MESSy support at the moment.

## L108:

The ESM-Tools software is devided into three major parts -> The ESM-Tools software is divided into three major parts This was pointed out by the reviewer but not modified.  $\rightarrow$  Done, sorry about that.

## L172:

We separated our (Python)

I think the issue is to use present and not past tense  $\rightarrow$  Still don't see what's the point, but changed to present.

2.2.1 has lost a whole paragraph while the corrections by rev 1 are marked as done. Was intentional?  $\rightarrow$  Yes, as the reviews were quite extensive, we reworked that part to make it more concise, and better focused on out tools, rather than Python features.

From reviewer #1

> P16L342 (in version 3 of the manuscript): 'configuration'; is Done but 'As an example, ...' is not Done.

(in version 4: ...'the model. An an example, in Fig. 9,...')  $\rightarrow$  Corrected that

Please correct the alignment of appendix subsections with the corresponding figures. A1 Example ESM-Tools runscript

A2 Example YAML configuration file  $\rightarrow$  changed the width of one figure and introduced a couple of newpage commands to make them fit nicely

I hope that now, finally, we have met all requirements for publication,

Best regards, Dirk Barbi for the ESM-Tools team