Dr. Kelly:

Thanks for your work as Topical Editor for this manuscript.

1. In the abstract and the intro, please spell out the acronym Islet (Interpolation Semi-Lagrangian Element-based Transport).

In the abstract (lines 6–8), the sentence now reads: "We describe a finite-element ISL transport method that we call the Interpolation Semi-Lagrangian Element-based Transport (Islet) method, such as for use with atmosphere models discretized using the spectral element method."

In the introduction (lines 28–29), we now write: "In this article, we describe the Interpolation Semi-Lagrangian Element-based Transport method, with the acronym stylized as "Islet" rather than "ISLET" to minimize distracting all-capitalized text."

2. Section 2.1.2: Please update the reference for Bradley (2022) if you have submitted it for publication. GMD wants reference "Works cited in a published manuscript should be published already, accepted for publication, or available as a preprint with a DOI."

Yes, that makes sense. I had hoped to have submitted the other paper by now, but another project has claimed my attention for the last several months. I have changed the text as follows to use "forthcoming article" as the means to refer to that work:

Lines 176–178: "We develop an ISL method that uses the *Islet bases*, summarized in Appendix A and derived in Bradley et al. (2021, Sect. 2 and 3) and a forthcoming article based on that material, to satisfy a necessary condition for stability."

Lines 766–767: "Bradley et al. (2021, Sect. 2 and 3) and a forthcoming article based on that material detail the derivation of the Islet bases, while this appendix summarizes the results of that derivation for completeness."

3. Line 137: Replace "operators" with "operations".

Thanks for catching that typo.

4. Section 4: You refer to "validation problems". "Validation" generally refers to comparison with physical data/observations, while "verification" refers to testing the math/implementation for correctness. Hence, "verification problems" is a better term. Same comment in the Conclusions.

I have replaced all uses of the word "verification" with "validation" and made equivalent replacements for other parts of speech.

5. Line 920: If you have a DOI for this reference, please include it.

Thanks. I have updated the reference to the ESSOAr preprint citation, with DOI.

Thanks,
Andrew Bradley