

Interactive comment on “30 years of upper air soundings on board of R/V POLARSTERN” by Amelie Driemel et al.

Amelie Driemel et al.

amelie.driemel@awi.de

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First of all, we are very grateful for the constructive comments of both reviewers. We are convinced that by heeding the reviewers' recommendations we could greatly improve the manuscript. Below, we have addressed all issues indicated in the reviewers' reports, and we believe that the revised version can meet the publication requirements of ESSD.

General comments:

#COMMENT 1: Section 3.4 doesn't seem unique and necessary in this kind of article. This might be because I'm not too familiar with science data papers. Thus, I'm not certain that section is needed to support the thesis of this article. **#RESPONSE:** The reviewer is right in the respect that this section is not needed to support the main focus of

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the article. Nevertheless, we would like to keep it, although we have shortened it considerably. In our opinion, this section is a good and important means to shortly address similar or complementing datasets (similar to a literature review of a scientific article).

#COMMENT 2: On page 3 line 11 there is a reference to the ECMWF links. I wasn't able to navigate that page to try and see what was being reference. Clarity with this link and explain would make the connection to forecast models and soundings stronger.

#RESPONSE: We are sorry for that, the idea was to keep the link short. But the page really is confusing. We therefore changed the link to the one directly leading to the reports: <http://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/quality-our-forecasts/monitoring-observing-system/ecmwf-global-data-monitoring-report-archive>

#COMMENT 3: On page 3 line 17 there is mention about the how the parents contain all datasets of one cruise leg. Here might be a good location for add the number of cruises/parents in this dataset. **#RESPONSE:** This is a very good idea, number of cruises (legs) have been added, the sentence now reads: "The single radiosonde launches have been grouped into so-called "parents" according to the cruise leg they belong to (i.e. a parent contains all datasets of one cruise leg, all in all 210 legs = parents)."

Technical Comments:

#COMMENT 1: Table 1 caption change to "Overview of the radiosonde types on board POLARSTERN" **#RESPONSE:** Caption was changed accordingly.

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