

## ***Interactive comment on “Mediterranean Sea climatic indices: monitoring long term variability and climate changes” by Athanasia Iona et al.***

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This paper describes a number of indices for changes in the Mediterranean heat and salt content over the past 65 years derived from an assembly of observations described in Iona et al (2018, under revision [essd-2018-9](https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2018-9)) interpolated to a regular grid using the DIVA software. Whilst these indices are interesting, I find some of the conclusions of limited value and potentially misleading and as such the paper, in my view, needs some revision before publication.

Please see attached supplement ([essd-2018-51-RC2-supplement](#)) for detailed comments.

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Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.earth-syst-sci-data-discuss.net/essd-2018-51/essd-2018-51-RC2-supplement.pdf>

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Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2018-51>, 2018.

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