

The authors appreciate the below suggestions, which have been implemented in the revised manuscript. The suggestions are in bold text and our responses are in plain text.

Comments to the Author:

The study and in particular the proposed method could be improved by a discussion about the sensitivity of the new skewness index on noise.

The authors agree that understanding how noise influences the interpretation of waveform skewness is important. As such, we included a brief discussion about the impact of noise on Page 8 Lines 8 through 17 of the revised manuscript. The reader is now referred to a supplementary figure that shows the result of an experiment that evaluates the impact of noise on waveform skewness.

Moreover, in the introduction, the authors could also consider recent findings on additional triggers that force an increased link between ENSO and Indian monsoon rainfall:

Singh et al.: Fingerprint of volcanic forcing on the ENSO–Indian monsoon coupling, *Science Advances*, 6 (2020).

Maraun & Kurths: Epochs of phase coherence between El Niño/Southern Oscillation and Indian monsoon, *Geophys Res Lett*, 32 (2005).

The authors appreciate the referral to these references, and we agree that a discussion about volcanic triggers is an important topic to discuss in the introduction section. We included a brief discussion about the role of volcanic forcing on the ENSO-Indian monsoon relationship on Page 2 Lines 25 through 31. The corresponding references have been added to the reference list.