

Risposta di Nature, 24 febbraio 2009:

Dear Professor Mariani

Thank you for submitting your comment on one of our published papers to Brief Communications Arising. Regretfully, we cannot offer to publish it.

This section of Nature is extremely oversubscribed, so we can consider only a very few of the critical comments we receive. Some of the criteria that are typically used to judge the suitability of a 'Brief Communication Arising' include whether the main conclusions of the published paper are challenged; whether important new data are included to support the critical comment; whether the issues discussed are broad enough to be of likely interest to a wide readership; and whether the technical points raised are accessible to readers.

In the present case, we have no doubt that your analysis of break points in temperature, Southern Annular Mode, and sea ice may be of interest to others working in related areas of research. Given that your interpretation refers to only one of the four potentially identified break points in temperature, relies on sea ice data from a discontinuous time period, and does not question the central conclusions of the paper (that of overall continental warming) we are forced to conclude that your work would find a more suitable outlet in a specialist journal, rather than Nature.

I am sorry that we cannot be more positive on this occasion.