Home advantage in European international soccer: Which dimension of distance matters?

General comments
The manuscript is interesting and well written. The methodology is appropriate and there is a large amount of data.
However, I have some recommendations and observations.

Abstract
Abstract should be rewritten and more information added:
1. Specify the methodology used.
2. Specify the main results (only one result was cited).
3. The authors present only one conclusion of the study (What are the main conclusions of the study?).
4.

1. Introduction
1. "...moving from country-specific studies in Australia (Goumas, 2014a), Brazil (Pollard, Silva, & Medeiros, 2008), England (Clarke & Norman, 1995; Nevill, Newell, & Gale, 1996; Carmichael & Thomas, 2005), Germany (Oberhafer, Philippovich, & Winner, 2010), Greece (Armatas & Pollard, 2012), Spain (Sánchez, García-Calvo, Leo, Pollard, & Gómez, 2009; Saavedra, Gutiérrez, Fernández, & Sa Marques, 2015), and Turkey (Seckin & Pollard, 2008)...

By citing the countries and, before Turkey, using "and", the author passes the idea that only these countries have been investigated. (i) Remove the word "and" and add "among others" after Turkey; or (ii) add other countries that have studies in their national leagues (e.g., Leite & Pollard (2018) analysed 47 countries)

2. "In addition, in Germany, Bäker et al. (2012) indicate that the home advantage vanishes whenever a match is a derby".
Some studies claim that this advantage is only smaller, but still can be there is (e.g., Leite & Pollard, 2018; Pollard, 1986: Seckin & Pollard, 2008), mainly using different stadiums for the teams, e.g., the derby Corinthians (Pacaembu Stadium) and Palmeiras (Allianz Arena) in the city of São Paulo (Brazil) is different of the derby Milan and Internazionale (San Siro Stadium) in the city of Milan (Italy).

3. "We are not aware of any previous work investigating the importance of distance factors (b), (c), or (d)...
"
I think the author could rewrite the sentence. Pollard, Armatas & Sani (2017) and Watanabe Wicker & Yan (2017) analysed this aspect (references below).

4. “To this end, we analyse 2,012 matches in the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) Champions League and UEFA Europa League between 2008 and 2016. The match data are merged with country and city-level data…”

I think this part should be within the methodology (sample).

2. Methods

2.1. Data

1. “For more information on the regulations of the two competitions and the rules of a soccer match, we refer to the UEFA website (http://www.uefa.com) and to FIFA (2017)”.

I think this information is unnecessary.

2. “Again, these numbers highlight the relevance of this study’s key contribution to the literature, i.e. jointly investigating multiple distance-related drivers of the home advantage in soccer”.

I do not know if this sentence is good to put in the study. I believe that is not the case, but sometimes this kind of statement can pass on a certain kind of author’s presumption. It is best for readers to come to this conclusion.

3. A team does not play in its own stadium if its stadium does not meet the requirements of the UEFA, for example, at Zulte Waregem (Belgium) in 2013, or if there are security concerns, as at Shakhtar Donetsk (Ukraine) in 2014.

Specify the countries of the teams. Some people can do not know the teams. What was the league? Champions League or Europe League?

The author presents some results in this section, perhaps it is better to reorder in the "results".

3. Results

3.1 Main Analysis

1. “...and (iii) the expected number of points with 0.550, ceteris paribus”.

I recommend use an English expression, a translate or a footnote. Not every reader will understand Latin.

2. “We do not find evidence for the home advantage to be heterogeneous by the derby status of the match or the region of the country of the team…”

Past? We did not find…
3. “A possible explanation for this may be that the available oxygen decreases with increasing altitude. Home team players are likely to be more adapted to performing well in the condition of low oxygen levels”.

This is only one (perhaps the main) of the explanations for this phenomenon. Decreased air friction, higher ball velocity, etc. are also other explanations. In fact there is an interaction between some aspects.

**Recommendation**

I recommend the authors add a section (Conclusion) with the main conclusions of the study.

**Observation**

I also recommend the authors read more recent studies about this theme:


