

***Interactive comment on* “Operational analysis of the circulation and shelf-slope exchanges in the continental margin of the northwestern Mediterranean” by A. Jordi et al.**

A. Jordi et al.

Received and published: 22 August 2006

We wish to thank the referee for the constructive remarks and comments. Changes have been made in the submitted manuscript accordingly. We would like to briefly answer each of his comments here as well.

General comments

We agree with the referee that, although the model is designed for operational runs, the analysis is made for a one month period without any implications for operational run. In consequence, following the suggestion of the referee we have removed references to an 'operational system'.

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

The quantification of 60% of slope area being cut by canyons is an estimate calculated with the slope area between the 200 m and 1000 m isobaths indented by canyons. Canyon limits have been subjectively defined at the end of their walls.

We have better justified the 30 days length and December 2005. This period has been chosen in function of the objectives of the paper. We think that 30 days is sufficient to demonstrate that the system works. Moreover, the dynamical features that characterize the area (along-slope front, instabilities and strong winds) took place in December 2005. Therefore, this period is adequate to estimate shelf-slope exchange.

Small comments

- We have included Garcia-Ladona et al. (1996) and Lapouyade and Durrieu de Madron (2001) for in situ information.
- The 'by' has been removed.
- The mushroom-like structure in old fig. 5 (now fig. 6) is observed in contemporaneous SST images. We have added further comments on this point in section 3.3 and a new figure with the satellite image (fig. 9).
- The reference to Argo data has been changed to MedArgo and to the Coriolis server.
- Equation 1 has been corrected.
- We agree that the statement 'assuming a similar magnitude for the entire winter' was imprecise. It refers to a similar magnitude for each winter month. This assumption is reasonable since oceanographic and meteorological conditions can be considered similar in winter in the area. The statement has been better explained in the manuscript.
- Grammar errors at the end of fig. 9 caption have been corrected.

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 3, 585, 2006.

[Full Screen / Esc](#)[Printer-friendly Version](#)[Interactive Discussion](#)[Discussion Paper](#)