

## ***Interactive comment on “An oceanographer’s guide to GOCE and the geoid” by C. W. Hughes and R. J. Bingham***

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Ocean Science covers review articles and short comments as well as normal research papers. This is stated on the home web page of the journal and arises because there is little reason not to include them. In particular, because Ocean Science is primarily an electronic journal, there is no publisher imposed limit on the number of pages published each year.

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The key point therefore is whether a review paper achieves the required high standard. Questions the reviewers should be asking therefore include:

- Is the review unbiased, comprehensive and up to date?
- Is it original and does it fill an important gap in the review literature?
- Are the references complete, up to date and correct?

On top of this, given that the review is aimed at non-experts - many of whom will have English as a second language, a key question is:

- Is it well written, well laid out and easy to understand?

Finally a really top review can stimulate a subject by bringing published research together in an original way, so:

- Does it provide new insights into the subject?
- Does it contribute in some other special way?

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Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 3, 1543, 2006.