

Interactive comment on “Inferring the zonal distribution of measured changes in the meridional overturning circulation” by A. M. de Boer and H. L. Johnson

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Thank you for taking the time to review our paper. Your comment and that of reviewer 1 highlight that the main focus of our paper is not sufficiently clear. We do not assume at any stage that Sverdrup balance holds in the North Atlantic, and our intention is certainly not to refute or support it. Rather, we show that the assumptions implicit in the BLC05 method lead to Sverdrup balance in linear regions, and that the interpretation of their results should therefore be consistent with this balance. It is for this reason that we feel the need to systematically show how this balance is derived from the BLC05 assumptions. Please also see our response to reviewer 1.

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 3, 1653, 2006.