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5, S172-S173, 2008

Interactive Comment

Interactive comment on "Development of thermodynamic potentials for fluid water, ice and seawater: a new standard for oceanography" by R. Feistel et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

Received and published: 23 September 2008

The authors are continuing their work on devising highly accurate, widely valid, empirical approximations to thermodynamic potentials, such as Gibbs function and Helmholtz function, especially for seawater, from which any thermodynamic quantity, including the density ("equation of state"), heat capacity, etc., may be obtained by elementary mathematical operations. In particular, they compute and report accurate water properties and coefficients at the triple point of liquid water, vapor and ice.

Doubtless these are important improvements for anyone concerned with the physical properties of seawater. I found the writing rather dense, geared to the specialist, I suppose. I wondered how I could use the data in the tables to calculate, say, the

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saturation vapor pressure variation near the triple point. If I really needed to, I guess I would figure it out. Yet it would have been handy to have unpacked some of the dense prose.

I certainly endorse publication.

Misprints: In tables 3 and 11, the lines labeled as property p (pressure) should obviously be /rho (density).

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 5, 375, 2008.

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