

## ***Interactive comment on “Metrics of hurricane-ocean interaction: vertically-integrated or vertically-averaged ocean temperature?” by J. F. Price***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

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I have some qualms about introducing another incomplete descriptor of the intensity of ocean-hurricane interaction into the literature. The author makes a good case that T100 is superior to OHC, and foresees a long sequence of such scalar fields eventually converging on the "best" one. Such an intellectual journey is fun for scholars, but I think that the reality is that these metrics tend to get a life of their own, particularly among forecasters who are mostly not well trained in oceanography. They get plugged into multivariate statistical predictors and then used. Since we know that a single number is a very incomplete measure of the ocean-storm interaction, approaches like that in (3) are likely to be more useful, at the cost of complexity.

Nevertheless, this is an excellent paper and addresses an important issue in hurricane-ocean interactions and can be published as is.

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Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 6, 909, 2009.

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