

Interactive comment on “An operational implementation of the GHER model for the Black Sea, with SST and CTD data assimilation” by L. Vandenbulcke et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This paper provides a short description of a modelling and data assimilation approach used on board a research vessel during an oceanographic cruise in the Black Sea during 2008. Neither the model nor the data assimilation technique are new. However, they appear not to have been used before as a forecasting tool.

The authors provide only superficial analysis of the performance of the model. They do not explain how the forecasts affected the operation or the outcomes of the cruise. In particular, one year after the cruise, it should be possible to say how the modelling approach improved results that were derived from the cruise. Further, the authors seem to be unaware of the growing literature focused on operational oceanography. The

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GODAE website is a good place to start: <http://www.godae.org/GODAE-publications-97-08.html>

To me, this manuscript reads more like a report to a funding agency than a scientific paper. I cannot see that it has anything like the substance that it requires to warrant scientific publication.

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 6, 1895, 2009.

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