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## ***Interactive comment on “A model for predicting changes in the electrical conductivity, practical salinity, and absolute salinity of seawater due to variations in relative chemical composition” by R. Pawlowicz***

**Anonymous Referee #1**

Received and published: 14 December 2009

This manuscript is part of an ongoing project, largely within the purview of SCOR WG-127, to return the definition of salinity from electrical conductivity to dissolved material per unit mass of seawater. Eventually we can expect a new definition of salinity, and maybe a new (or suitably modified) equation of state for seawater. As such this is a very well-written manuscript which can be accepted as is, with one tiny complaint: section 2.3 lines 2-3 (p 2872), "As a particular parcel of seawater is advected through the ocean within the thermohaline circulation ...". Why the THC only? The THC is the buoyancy-driven circulation. Why is the wind-driven circulation excluded? As wind-driven ocean

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gyres can span a few tens of degrees of latitude, with associated temperature and salinity changes, this qualification appears gratuitous. Simply delete the phrase "within the thermohaline circulation". Otherwise a fine achievement.

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Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 6, 2861, 2009.

**OSD**

6, C898–C899, 2009

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