

Interactive comment on “Upper layer current variability in the Central Ligurian Sea” by P. Picco et al.

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The revised version of the paper includes satellite SST images and CTD profiles taken during the experiment. This provides an insight on the spatial variability and the mesoscale structures of the area which could not be obtained by a single-point measurements. New references which help to explain the reported observations are added. The progressive vector of EOF surface currents (Fig.8) along with fig.7 is useful to understand how the modes decomposition can be used to separate different physical processes. It is better mentioned in the revised version. Section 5 is reorganized, to avoid misunderstandings and to consider the suggestions of the referee. In particular: The sentence about the rotary spectrum refers to the wind spectrum which, differently from the currents, does not show any peaks on inertial period. This is now reported in

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a more clear sentence. More results and figures from Ekman model simulations and comparison with the observation are shown. The “nominal error on horizontal currents” is that provided by the manufacturer according to the instrument configuration used. All the others minor comments are accommodated.

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