

Interactive comment on “Assessment of the 3-D temperature and salinity observational networks in the Baltic Sea and North Sea” by W. Fu et al.

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It is regrettable that the authors did not compare their data coverage and consistency with the published BALTIC atlas, <http://www.io-warnemuende.de/climate-atlas.html> which, to our knowledge, is the most comprehensive observational data set available. Rainer Feistel

The meta data set in the paper covers the period 2004-2006 whereas to our knowledge, the Baltic Atlas only covers until 2005. The meta data has been collected through the PAPA project, which was carried out under the BOOS group. The meta data in PAPA were collected for these particular years from all the BOOS partners by BSH and it is our assumption that it represents the vast majority of the data collected in the Baltic Sea 2004-2006. For the years where overlap exist with the Baltic Atlas, there should

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thus be a great overlap between the two data sets. For assessing the observational network in a climatic perspective and not just for 2004-2006, we acknowledge that the use of the Baltic Atlas would be indeed very helpful.

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