

Interactive
Comment

Interactive comment on “An ECOOP web portal for visualising and comparing distributed coastal oceanography model and in-situ data” by A. L. Gemmell et al.

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Thank you for your review.

COMMENT: The paper describes the web portal and supporting services for the ECOOP project, which aims to provide a system for the comparison of observational and modelled coastal oceanography. The overall system uses OGC and related standards where possible and fits well with the international common infrastructure approach.

As such, it is a good description of the state of the art and is well implemented and complete. An unusually large range of data are available and presented in a flexible

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and efficient fashion. Particular concern has been paid to addressing performance issues and it is useful that this was discussed. A minor improvement could be made in making it clearer that the web portal runs within the browser client (i.e. everything in the "web portal" part of figure 3 is client side). Naively, one could assume that it runs in part on the server, acting on behalf of the client.

RESPONSE: We have made it explicit that the web portal runs in the browser client by adding text to this effect in a)the Fig 3 caption, and b) the second sentence in section 3.2

COMMENT: It may also be useful to mention the difficulties of choosing appropriate colour scales for WMS datasets, particularly when comparing data between providers.

RESPONSE: This was not a particular concern in the present work as we were not comparing model with model data, and all model data in the portal came via an instance of ncWMS (which all have the same available choice of colour scales). However, this is a valid and interesting point in the general case and we have added a short paragraph to the discussion section where we talk about this problem and the possible use of the OGC Styled Layer Descriptor standard to address it.

COMMENT: In addition to the implementation detail, the paper contains a notably good discussion justifying and demonstrating the real-world usefulness of the approach chosen.

The paper is well written, clear and suitable for the journal

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 8, 189, 2011.

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