

Interactive comment on “An operational model for the West Iberian coast: products and services” by M. Mateus et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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Summary: The submitted manuscript deals with an operational model for WI coast which is related to MyOcean project. In the first place, a general description of the model setup and validation are depicted while at continuation seasonal temperature, salinity and current velocity results are provided. Finally, the past, current and future applications of this operational model are discussed.

General remarks: The overall quality of the work is good and only few clarifications are necessary. However, it seems that the dissociation from the previously published methodological papers about MOHID could be improved by emphasizing the application context (this refers mainly in the introduction) and by underlining the improvements and changes in the model setup. I understand that the authors like to present their work as completely as possible, but the manuscript would become more concise if shrunk

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to the substantial contributions. Moreover, I suggest a briefly description of the use of MyOcean for the validation of MOHID in the introduction.

Specific comments: Page 1656, Line 13. Please insert a reference (I assume Le Provostet?) Page 1657, Lines 16ff. Please add the horizontal resolution and the vertical S-levels and information about the atmospheric fields forcing. Page 1661, Line 10. Winter upwelling events are unusual in the area but still there are some studies (e.g. Varela et al., 2010), Page 1663, Lines 15ff. You could mention surface winds, diurnal warning, satellite manoeuvres and algorithm selection as possible sources of this difference. Page 1664, Lines 10ff. Coastal HF Radar would also be of great help. Please comment. Page 1664, Line 24. Please revise this sentence. Page 1665. You could also mention the Motorway of the Sea of western Europe. Page 1667, Lines 22-26. Please revise. Page 1667, Lines 27-28. It is said that up till now there are no available tools to track the transport of the bloom once it is detected. This is not true as ocean colour techniques have been used to track the transport of the blooms in WI coast (e.g. Spyarakos et al., 2011). Page 1667, Lines 4ff. Do you have any information about the biomass variability of the bloom? Figures 2&3. Please indicate the acquisition time in each map.

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 9, 1651, 2012.