

Interactive comment on “Core operational Sentinel-3 marine data product services as part of the Copernicus Space Component” by H. Bonekamp et al.

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The paper does not present major scientific findings, but gives the reader and potential user of Sentinel-3 ocean data a comprehensive overview of the mission, and its data and products. It will serve as a useful reference for the Sentinel-3 ocean mission.

The paper is well structured, sufficient length (concise enough to avoid being boring)

It is absolute the right timing for publication, a few days after launch of the satellite. Hopefully will the nice data and products described in the paper be available for users within not too far time. And that brings me to my first suggestion: A few words on the time line. When can we expect the data and service to the users ?

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Some small comments:

1.1. Copernicus, second paragraph: " to provide modelvalue added services, CMEMS require a systematic, reliable ... service " (in order to be sure which service we speak about)

2.1 Generic data products ... First paragraph: about the different timeliness. This is all fine, however there has the last year in various fora been a lot of talk on faster data access and the QRT (Quasi-Real-Time) concept has been introduced, referring to 20 minutes- 1 hour. This is in line with modern demands for nowcasting purposes. Is the mission flexible enough to potentially adjust to these new requirements ? This must have been discussed internally in EUMETSAT, and a few words on the topic might be good and increase the relevance.

About level-1 global and level-2 with land-mask: Is it correctly understood that the S-3 level-2 data from EUMETSAT comes over the ocean, and only over the ocean, while level 1 data will be provided globally (no land mask). This is important e.g. for users who are interested in radiances/brightness temperatures in general. If correct understood make this even more clear!

2.2 Ocean Colour..., second paragraph: "as certain regions of interest" -> "as the Regional Seas" Fig 3 map of Regional Seas, by the way, has mixed the Black and the Baltic in the figure text.

Finally: about Section 4, Product dissemination, what is the relation between the EUMETSAT dissemination facilities and the various "Sentinel Data Hubs" , collaborative, scientific etc, which the user might have heard about and expect to also get Sentinel 3 data from ? A few words on this !

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