

Interactive comment on “Current temporal asymmetry and the role of tides: Nan-Wan Bay vs. the Gulf of Elat” by Yosef Ashkenazy et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This paper makes some interesting and important contributions, in particular the introduction of the somewhat unusual distribution the authors promote; at least to me the distribution was not exactly a household name. The paper is unquestionably competently done, and well presented.

There are two main issues I thought the authors can better address in a future review.

The first is the rationale for the comparison of the two bays. As I read the ms, my strong impression was that the comparison was made for one reason only: the presence of the radar system the authors use in both locales. This is not a compelling reason for comparison. On the contrary are more compelling arguments against the comparison, in particular that the bays are SO dramatically bathymetrically and geometrically different, and that they are forced by fundamentally different processes. These two

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observations taken together suggest that neither bay is a particularly interesting or apt comparison for the other. To be sure, each is perfectly interesting in its own right. It's just the comparison that feels strained.

Second, I can think of many physical variables to characterize the flow by. Time of acceleration of surface current seems secondary at best, and the authors do not provide compelling rationale for this peculiar choice.

But - once they made the choice to compare those two fundamentally different bays, and once they chose the physical variable they did, the authors did an excellent job demonstrating a very useful and practical application for these quite unique data sets.

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