

Interactive comment on “Accuracy of altimeter data in inner and coastal seas” by Luigi Cavaleri et al.

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The paper describes a relevant subject about the accuracy and validity of altimeter data (wind and wave) in inner seas and coastal areas.

I have the following general comments:

1) Some previous work and literature exist about the subject that the authors should consider. See for instance the following reference: ALES: A multi-mission adaptive subwaveform retracker for coastal and open ocean altimetry Marcello Passaro et al. 2014

2) A well established methodology exists for the inter comparison of several (more than two) data sources, that offers the appropriate framework to estimate the individual

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accuracies, the triple co-location method. Pls. check the following reference: Error Estimation of Buoy, Satellite, and Model Wave Height Data Peter Janssen et al. 2007

I have the following specific comments:

- 1) The paper mentions Table 1 (for wind) and Table 2 (for waves), summarizing the statistics. However, I can only find one table with wave statistics. Am I missing something?
- 2) Figures 1, 2, 3, and 9 need to be bigger. I would use the whole width page for every single panel. The reason is that these figures contain also the statistical parameters, which are illegible in the current format (size).
- 3) Pls. change the colour scale of Figure 7. The arrows are also not very visible. It is not informative in the present form.
- 4) Line 62: pls. change "extensive detailed" by something more appropriate. This statement rise a lot of expectations in regard to the amount of information, while in fact, this is a detailed analysis of some specific conditions that are probably representative for general cases but not extensive. Same in line 181.
- 5) Line 78: typo, "on an, although ..."
- 6) Line 82: Figure caption (winds) refers to Table 1, but Table 1 is about waves, according to its caption.
- 7) Line 107: Pls. specify if these differences are for wind or waves, it is confusing in the text.
- 8) Paragraph starting with line 107, and Figure 3: Triple collocation is a good framework for this analysis.
- 9) Line 126: typo, "Figure 4 shows"
- 10) Line 132: Figure 4 caption. Although indicated in the title of the figure, pls. indicate

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in the figure caption that the indicated background field is Hs.

11) Paragraph starting with line 144: Some geographical references are mentioned, which are not necessarily familiar to the reader, pls, indicate them in the figure (6).

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/os-2018-81>, 2018.

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