Interactive comment on "The Ekman spiral for piecewise-uniform diffusivity" *by* David G. Dritschel et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

I had pleasure reading this paper. It addresses an important and difficult problem with mathematical simplicity due to astuteness and to a nice choice of physical hypotheses. The solution is analysed in asymptotic cases and in a general case. A comparison with observations (diurnal and seasonal variations) confirms the main conclusions of the theoretical analysis.

In summary, this paper should be published as is.