Review of OS-2021-57 “Currents Generated by the Sea Breeze in the Southern Caspian Sea” by Mina Masoud and Rich Pawlowicz

In my previous review I made two important suggestions to the authors:

(1) To provide the harmonic analysis of the S1 currents and show the corresponding ellipses.

(2) To construct the U- and V-spectra (cross-shore and along-shore) instead of rotary spectra, which are not effective close to the shore.

Unfortunately, the authors rejected both of them. Being for many years the Editor-in-Chief (PAGEOPH) myself, I aware that authors have the right to have their own opinion, which can be different from the reviewer's opinion. At the same time, the main job of a reviewer (as I understand it) is to help to the authors, to give them a good piece of advice, to assist the authors in presenting their results in the most spectacular way. As I know quite well, authors frequently cannot look at their own results and presentations of these results from aside ("their eyes are blurred") and from this point of view, an independent advice from the reviewer can be very useful (as an author, many times I had such experience myself).

My suggestions were based on thousands of current velocity series that I processed and presented myself, in particular, on about two hundred for Caspian Sea (although, mostly for the northern and central parts of the sea).

Thus my comments on the authors' replies:

(1) Tidal ellipses.

In fact, the figure constructed by the authors in their reply to the reviewer is quite useful in gives much scientific information! By my opinion, it should be included into the paper. My only suggestion is to show the rotation direction, either by colour or by arrows.

(2) Rotary current spectra.

Figure 3, as it is now, is totally senseless! It is almost impossible (or, at least, extremely difficult) to compare either CW and CCW components for the same depth or spectral changes with depth. I am sorry to say this, but the figure is more appropriate for the Christmas tree than for the authors' scientific paper! The authors refer to the figures by Zaytsev et al. (2010) with shown rotary spectra of breeze-generated currents (Figs. 3 and 5 of that paper),

but in that paper CW and CCW spectra are combined together (instead of a mirror image) and the differences are clearly seen. Moreover, to make the corresponding tidal peaks more evident and to demonstrate their evolution with depth, those authors (including the reviewer) in Fig.5 use the linear X scale.

I would like to emphasize, I do not insist on my comments; I just advise the authors how to show their results in a more spectacular way.

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