

***Interactive comment on “Modeling the nitrogen fluxes in the Black Sea using a 3D coupled hydrodynamical-biogeochemical model: transport versus biogeochemical processes, exchanges across the shelf break and comparison of the shelf and deep sea ecodynamics” by M. Grégoire and J. M. Beckers***

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The paper by M. Gregoire and J.M. Beckers gives a very detailed introduction in the Black Sea system covering all relevant aspects such as hydrography and biogeochemical cycling. It provides and good overview over recent studies addressing the ecosystem of the Black Sea. After a detailed description of the model structure, the results of the models are given very much in detail. The analysis explains clearly the main control mechanisms and drivers of the nitrogen fluxes. It would be helpful to the reader to have a better and more obvious comparison of the model output with observational

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data. This validation appears to be somewhat hidden in the text. Possibly, also a line in Fig. 6 is missing, or at least not visible. Similarly, the conclusions appear to be rather long and a short concise summary helps the reader to abstract the scientific findings from the rather technical information.

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