

## ***Interactive comment on “An algorithm for estimating Absolute Salinity in the global ocean” by T. J. McDougall et al.***

### **Anonymous Referee #2**

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Overall comment:

This manuscript provides a very important algorithm for estimating absolute salinity in the global ocean and should be published after the following problems are taken care of.

Specific comments:

- 1.The only equation given in the abstract can not be found anywhere else in the text. This is a little strange.
- 2.The standard composition is taken as those of surface water of the North Atlantic. This is a little vague as the composition of the North Atlantic Ocean varies from place to place. The standard composition should be better defined.

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3. Page 218, TEOS-10 was not defined.
4. I don't see the need to single out data from the CASO voyage. Table 2 is also not needed.
5. line 19 on page 220. Why is it Fig. 1?
6. This is a potentially big problem setting the Si values zero for continental boundaries. The Si concentrations can be very high although the depth may be shallow.
7. Fig. 1. Numbers in the parentheses are confusing. Use semi-column instead of period to separate the two values.

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Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., 6, 215, 2009.

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