

Ocean Sci. Discuss., referee comment RC2
<https://doi.org/10.5194/os-2021-119-RC2>, 2022
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Comment on os-2021-119

Julien Mader (Referee)

Referee comment on "Coastal high-frequency radars in the Mediterranean – Part 1: Status of operations and a framework for future development" by Pablo Lorente et al., Ocean Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/os-2021-119-RC2>, 2022

This paper is an ambitious community work aiming to showcase the current status of the Mediterranean HFR network and the future roadmap for coordinated actions that will allow this to play a major role in the high-level challenges of the ocean observing landscape in the Mediterranean Sea.

Significant innovations are described, with interesting multi-site approaches and covering a very wide spectra of fields in the overall value-chain from the HFR systems operations to the transfer of advanced data products.

The presented work is also gathering a complete review of the main levers that the community is tackling (BPs, Harmonization, Data Quality, New parameters...) for promoting exchanges between operators, and creating synergies and added value by transforming a set of individual radars into an integrated network.

The description of the community status, difficulties, key references and challenges derives to a very useful roadmap for the current actors of the network, also for the potential future contributors, and in general for the ocean observing community.

The established regional roadmap is well linked to the European and Global initiatives. Some regional specificities are well described, in particular in the SWOT analysis. However, it may be clarified which of those challenges for future development is really answering a specific or prioritized issue for the Region, and which are shared with the European or Global community.

The manuscript will definitely represent an important step forward for the ocean observing community.

Some detailed minor changes and recommendations for improving the manuscript are listed in the supplement document.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://os.copernicus.org/preprints/os-2021-119/os-2021-119-RC2-supplement.pdf>