

The referee's comments are shown below with our reply and action shown in **bold**. Quoted line numbers refer to the line numbers in the tracked changes document.

Responses to Reviewer 2

We thank Dr Butterworth for his insightful comments and thorough review of the manuscript.

Reviewer general comments

One possible concern with this manuscript is its shelf life. Unlike previous types of bulk flux scripts (e.g., NOAA COARE) which had unique versions that did not change after publication, this toolbox will presumably continue to change. That may have the effect of causing this article to be difficult to follow even a year or two from now. It would be helpful for someone reading this article in the future to be able to view a version of the toolbox from the time the article was written. I believe that is a function of Git, but I'm not sure how one would accomplish it. If it is possible, it may be worth adding the steps to the instructions pdf and then mentioning it in the main text. That way someone can find the items being described in this paper after they've been modified or removed from the toolbox.

The reviewer raises an important point. While we would discourage users from using old versions of the toolbox that may contain old methodology, we recognise the critical importance of transparency and repeatability in science and that part of this involves being able to trace and reference specific versions of scientific tools. Historic versions of FluxEngine are accessible through the Github page and we have frozen development of version 3.0 with the submission of this manuscript. This version is relevant for this manuscript and it is now permanently accessible through the Github repository's releases page: <https://github.com/oceanflux-ghg/FluxEngine/releases>. A link to this has been added to the manuscript. We have expanded the section on code availability to explain this (please see lines 987 to 989).

In addition, the FluxEngine repository includes the configuration files used for each case study as examples to aid new users in constructing their own configuration files. These will continue to be updated to maintain their compatibility with future releases. To help, we have also added four interactive Jupyter tutorials that are based on the first three case studies from our manuscript. These tutorials are included in the FluxEngine download and provide all of the information, data and code required to reproduce the case studies. It is our intention to include these Jupyter tutorials in all future releases of the toolbox so that the software remains relevant to the content in the paper.

We have now added a statement into the discussion to introduce the tutorials and to explain our intention to keep these within future releases (please see lines 501 to 504 and 929 to 953).

Specific comments

Line 45: Add a link to the toolbox in the abstract (if that doesn't violate editorial rules). You'll get more clicks.

The guidelines for authors asks that citations not be included in abstracts unless absolutely necessary. As such we have refrained from including a link to the toolbox's Github page here. Instead, we have added a link into the introduction of the paper. Please see line 75.

Lines 92-93: You mention that there is an option of either bulk formula, equation 1, or equation 2. It might be useful to include the bulk formula as an equation in the paper. The two equations that you do show are different iterations of the bulk formula. So, I'm not sure how the bulk formula option differs.

The equations shown, as pointed out by the reviewer, are formulations of the bulk equation, but utilise different solubility terms for the atmospheric and aqueous component. The focus of the current manuscript is on the new features provided by FluxEngine and so rather than repeating previous discussions of the theory we have added a sentence to refer readers to the relevant literature (Woolf et al. 2016 and Shutler et al. 2016) and we have also clarified the explanation of the equation so we now refer to these equations as variations of a bulk formula. Please see the modifications to lines 79 to 85.

One reason for our original choice to give the more accurate bulk formulations in the manuscript (e.g. our choice to state equations 1 and 2) is to encourage the scientific community to use these more accurate formulations, as the commonly used approximation (using $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ and containing only one solubility term) can result in substantial biases. This issue is discussed in detail within Woolf et al. (2016).

Line 321: Include link to pangaea.de (my top Google results were for Oklahoma oil and gas data at pangaeadata.com)

Done. This is now given on line 543. The link to the dataset that this is referring to (Holding et al., 2019) is also provided in the reference list.

Line 345: The text says the intakes were of unknown depth. When doing the reanalysis what depth was entered?

The reanalysis step does not require depth to be explicitly defined. Instead it uses a temperature dataset that is referenced to known depth. The details of the method can be found in Goddijn-Murphy et al., 11(4), Ocean Science, 2015. This published method simply requires a temperature that is valid for a consistent depth in all ocean regions, so we have used a satellite observed and climate quality dataset and in our analysis this is used to represent the temperature at the base of the mass boundary layer. The method relies on the paired temperature and fugacity ($f\text{CO}_2$) measurements. So the $f\text{CO}_2$ is recalculated based on the difference in temperatures between the *in situ* temperature measurement (which was collected at some unknown depth) and depth-consistent (satellite observed) temperature field to produce the $f\text{CO}_2$ values that are consistent

with the satellite observed temperature (and therefore valid for a consistent depth).

The satellite observed temperature dataset used within the case studies are valid for a depth of ~1 m (Reynolds et al. 2007). So the re-calculated fCO₂ are therefore also valid for this depth. We have added this statement into the paper on lines 363 to 366.

We have expanded the explanation of these issues. Please see lines 342 to 427.

Line 384: Cruise 4 does not look like its flux magnitudes were much higher than 1 and 2.

Apologies and thank you for highlighting this. This sentence has been corrected to just refer to cruise track 3. Please see line 659.

Figure 4: Color of xCO₂ is blue, but text says that it's in situ. Shouldn't it be black? **The xCO₂ data were acquired as part of the downloaded cruise data, but the data documentation indicates that they are actually interpolated from the GLOBALVIEW-CO₂ dataset, and so it is therefore not *in situ*. We have amended the text to clarify this. Please see lines 549 to 550.**

Figure 3 & 4: One says gas transfer velocity was from Ho et al. (2006), the other Ho et al. (2007). Is that correct?

Apologies. This was in error. The captions for figures 3 and 4 now both say Ho et al. 2006.

Line 429: The text says that the same method was used to reanalyze Case Study 2 and Case Study 1, but the monthly satellite SST used to reanalyze the SOCAT datasets (seen in Fig. 4a) appears to be a moving average to higher temporal resolution, while Ostergarnsholm was stepped monthly SST values (Fig. 5z). Why the difference?

Both case studies did originally use the same method. The monthly 'stepping' is visible in the Ostergarnsholm fixed station data but not in the cruise data for two reasons:

1) The spatial resolution of the temperature data is 1° by 1° and as the research vessel moves across grid boundaries this results in different temperature values within the same month. Whereas the Ostergarnsholm data are at a fixed location (57.42N, 18.99E), so the monthly mean temperature remains constant throughout the month.

2) The research cruise shown in Figure 4 takes approximately 30 days (starting on the 16th October, 2013) and so this period overlaps two months. In contrast, the Ostergarnsholm data in Figure 5 spans ~250 days.

These differences in time and space of the two case studies results in differing SST variability within the plots in figure 4 and figure 5.

However, this comment from the reviewer and an observation by one of co-authors has meant that we have updated the Ostergarnsholm fixed station

analysis to omit the re-analysis as we feel that its application was misleading. So the original 'stepped' issue that the reviewer commented on is no longer in the updated manuscript.

On the topic of reanalyzed fluxes. . . I understand that the purpose of this paper is to highlight the functionality of FluxEngine, but as long as you're showing data plots it would be good to have a better description of their importance. It doesn't seem likely that the monthly satellite SST is more accurate than high temporal resolution in situ SST measurements obtained at a non-standardized depth. I could be wrong. But if I am it would be good to make that clear. Because that difference appears to be a major driver in CO₂ flux difference between original data and reanalyzed data. So, then statistics, such as 35% difference between original and reanalyzed fluxes, don't mean very much. It just feels like an exercise. Again, I understand that the science questions are not the purpose of the paper. But the examples would be stronger, and more engaging, if it seemed like the differences being shown were indicative of true error in the in situ measurements.

We agree with the reviewer that it is important to more fully explain the need for the steps taken in the example analyses. To this end, we have added a new section (section 2.4) that contains an expanded explanation of the need for the reanalysis. This is an overview of the main issues as we still refer the reader to the original publications of the full explanations and justifications.

It was not our intention to imply that the *in situ* SST data are less accurate than the monthly satellite SST for the measurement time and location (and depth). Instead we were attempting to explain that the paired *in situ* fCO₂ and SST data are collected at an unknown (and potentially variable) depth below the surface (e.g. 1 m or more). Whereas for an accurate gas flux calculation values of SST and corresponding fCO₂ need to be available for the bottom and top of the mass boundary layer (e.g. either side of the top 1 mm of the water-air interface). The theory and reasoning is explained within Woolf et al. (2016). So for an accurate calculation, some sort of re-analysis step is required to determine an fCO₂ and SST pairing that are representative of the conditions at a fixed depth that is close to the air-water interface, which can then in turn be used to represent the bottom of the mass boundary layer. The fCO₂ and SST at the top of the mass boundary layer can then be estimated (or vice versa).

This re-analysis to a consistent depth then in turn allows a more accurate calculation of the gas fluxes, as it is then possible to calculate two solubilities and thus two concentrations (one at the bottom, and one at the top of the mass boundary layer).

The re-analysis step reduces uncertainty and unknown biases that arise due to the fCO₂ measurements being collected at some unknown (and potentially variable) depth below the surface. This depth of a few metres is non-optimal for representing the bottom of the mass boundary layer and

could vary within an individual cruise dataset, e.g. the depth of underway samples will vary with sea state and ballasting.

The choice of reference SST data set to use with the reanalysis tool depends, to some extent, on the aims of the analysis. If FluxEngine is being used with a collated data set to calculate temporally averaged fluxes (e.g. monthly mean values), then using a monthly gridded SST is preferable because this provides a SST data at a consistent depth and avoids issues of sparse sampling. Alternatively, if FluxEngine is being used to calculate fluxes along a specific cruise track (or a single location, as in case study three), the best solution would be collect *in situ* sea skin temperature data and then perform the reanalysis using these data. However, these data were not normally available as most ships collecting fCO₂ data do not collect skin temperature (but instruments to make this measurement are available e.g. the Infrared Sea surface temperature Autonomous Radiometer (ISAR). This approach is highlighted in the new section 2.4 (lines 402 to 416).

We have now explained these reasoning for the re-analysis steps and assumption in more detail within Section 2.4 (lines 342 to 427) and we thank the reviewer for highlighting the need to include this explanation.

Line 481: The text mentions that Pereira et al. (2018) was used to estimate the degree of surfactant suppression. But what data was used to estimate where surfactants were physically present? Doesn't there still need to be some underlying data layer? Or is the Pereira estimate a blanket effect for all grid cells?

The published Pereira et al. (2018) method for estimating surfactants coverage is a linear relationship with sea surface temperature. So the temperature field provides an estimate of the surfactant coverage or its existence. The justification and reasoning for this parameterisation is contained within the original Pereira et al. (2018) paper. We have now added a sentence to clarify that no additional data were required. Please see lines 804 to 806.

Line 494: I am not sure to what "parts of both" refers. Was it both figures?
Yes, this is correct. We have modified this sentence to clarify the meaning. Please see line 816.

Line 552: What dataset did you use for sea water depths?

The GEBCO Digital Atlas bathymetry was used. We have added this reference to the manuscript. Please see line 907 to 909. Apologies as this this was previously missing.

Figure 7 caption: Add "annual" after "Mean"
Done.

Technical corrections

We thank the reviewer again for their detailed reading of the manuscript. We have implemented all of the suggested technical corrections.

Additional amendments made by the authors

Linked to Reviewer 2's comments and discussions between co-authors we have added a cautionary note that the reanalysis method assumes isochemical conditions (lines 395 to 400), and placed a greater emphasis on our recommendation that, in the ideal case, both skin and bulk ocean temperature be measured *in situ*. We decided to remove the reanalysis step from case study two as this (as Reviewer 2 identified) could cause confusion. This region is known to exhibit up-welling events and so it violates the isochemical assumptions.

The reanalysis tool is still demonstrated in case study one, and we have updated the description of the change in calculated net flux due to applying reanalysis to quote values in $\text{C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-2}$ rather than percentage difference (line 663). We feel that this is a more representative description, because the largest percentage changes occur when the magnitude of flux is small, and is therefore of little consequence.