

Interactive comment on “Validation of Sentinel-1 offshore winds and average wind power estimation around Ireland” by Louis de Montera et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The manuscript ‘Validation of Sentinel-1 offshore winds and average wind power estimation around Ireland’ examines the absolute accuracy of wind products provided via Copernicus and maps the wind resource over the seas of Ireland. Wind speed maps from different SAR sensors have been retrieved and validated quite extensively before but this particular product - OCN - is relatively new and less validated. Its potential lies in the open access to preprocessed maps via Copernicus. Users from the wind energy community could potentially benefit from this data set and therefore validation is crucial.

Major comments:

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The principles of SAR wind retrieval are not clearly understood nor explained and this leads to misunderstandings or wrong assumptions in connection with the validation analysis (see also my detailed comments).

There seems to be an issue with masking/flagging of data near the coastline. This should be examined further and discussed throughout the manuscript.

Statements and conclusions are sometimes given without any firm evidence. Please refer to my detailed comments in the attached file.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.wind-energ-sci-discuss.net/wes-2019-49/wes-2019-49-RC2-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Wind Energ. Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/wes-2019-49>, 2019.

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