

# Review of the paper entitled The global ocean mixed layer depth derived from an energy approach

I thank the authors for responding accurately to my questions and for extensively editing the manuscript. I realize that it was a huge but necessary effort to ultimately produce a much clearer and more convincing version. I suggest to the authors to turn off the "trackchange" mode to have a manuscript that is easier to read. In this final form, I accept the article for publication.

Lines 983-1002 : I appreciated this discussion. You mention that the EBM-MLD intrinsically depends on the  $\Delta\bar{\rho}^\theta$  threshold, which may negatively influence its performance. I am wondering how to overcome this threshold. Following Equation 8, if you impose  $WB = 0$  (or  $WB$  small), then  $\rho(h) = \bar{\rho}$ . In that way, we can construct the following iterative process to obtain the MLD  $h$  :

$$h^{n+1} = \eta - \frac{1}{\rho(h^n)} \int_{h^n}^{\eta} \rho(z) dz \quad \text{where } n \text{ is the iteration} \quad (1)$$

$h$  is defined when  $|h^{n+1} - h^n| \leq \epsilon$  where  $\epsilon$  is your convergence criteria.

## 1 Minor Points

- Line 163 : Replace the lower bound of the integral  $z_{ref}$  by  $z_{eq}$  in Equation 3.  
Line 194 : Replace "the time integral of the buoyancy flux" by "the time integral of the surface buoyancy flux"