Interactive comment on “Application of EnOl Assimilation in BCC_CSM1.1: Twin Experiments for Assimilating Sea Surface Data and T/S Profiles” by Wei Zhou et al.

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Dear Authors, while documentation of a new reanalysis system is a significant contribution, the referees find the experiments to suffer significant shortcomings in design. Most critically, the twin experiment design does not include surface forcing uncertainty or model error. Additionally, they find it problematic to discuss forecasts outside of a fully coupled framework.

I would like to emphasize that the referees are not objecting to the new reanalysis system and its development, but to the way in which evaluation of that system was performed. Unfortunately, this makes the prospect of acceptance problematic without
replacement of the experimental design.

If you choose to proceed, responding to the referees’ comment, I must advise doing so before undertaking on any of the additional work required to revise the manuscript.

Sincerely Yours, –Matthew Hecht