

Interactive comment on “Validation of digital elevation models (DEMs) and comparison of geomorphic metrics on the southern Central Andean Plateau” by Benjamin Purinton and Bodo Bookhagen

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Received and published: 13 March 2017

Two reviewers have now commented on the manuscript by Purinton and Bookhagen. It is clear from the comments that both reviewers believe this will be an important contribution, especially given the increasing availability of global datasets. The manuscript address a quite fundamental question: given we use topography to make predictions about sediment transport and hydrology, and in addition use it to assess geomorphic transport laws and possibly give us insight into both geologic hazards and uplift history, can we actually be confident that topographic metrics are reliable in the face of

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current topographic data quality? This manuscript includes a detailed and systematic analysis of several datasets to answer this question and highlights the strengths and weaknesses of a number of widely available datasets.

The authors' responses to reviewer #1 and #2 clearly indicate that any suggestions will be integrated into a revised version of the manuscript. Where authors have not followed suggestions they give clear explanations why not. I appreciate the effort involved in producing the new figure S11, and compilation of the new table 2 to address questions about DEM validation. The revised abstract is clearer than the original and the results are clear.

I therefore believe this manuscript can proceed with minor revisions, and I look forward to seeing the revised version of the manuscript.

Interactive comment on Earth Surf. Dynam. Discuss., doi:10.5194/esurf-2017-4, 2017.

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