

Interactive comment on “Long-term geochemical and hydraulic measurements in a characteristic confined/unconfined aquifer system of the younger Pleistocene in northeast Germany” by C. Merz and J. Steidl

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 2 April 2015

The paper reports 14 years of hydrogeochemical parameters and groundwater hydraulic head measurements. It is well written and structured and the data seem to be accurate from the reported information. The main aim of the paper, which is supposed since it couldn't be found explicitly written in the text, is to serve as a data base for interested hydrologists, geochemists and/or hydrogeologists. Nevertheless, in my opinion its usage is not straightforward since the interpretation of environmental data passes also from the direct knowledge of the study site. One main point is to understand if the reported wells are on a real transect along the same flow path. From the

C68

reported data, there is not the possibility to reconstruct the water table surface in the area, which is one of the main surveys in order to understand the groundwater flow at local and regional scale. Moreover, since the wells are close to the river it would have been very interesting to know also the river stages, as well as river geochemistry, together with a higher frequency of the automated acquisition of well heads in order to study rapid exchange hydrological processes between groundwater and the river. Some of the statements are not supported by data (page 115 lines 22-24; page 116 lines 18-20). Sincerely I would have expected an interpretation of the hydrological and geochemical data since the paper could be published as a research paper. Even if it is a quite huge dataset I am not sure that this could be enough for a research paper. In summary, I do not recommend this manuscript for publication in HESSD until substantial changes will be done.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., 8, 113, 2015.