

Interactive comment on “OCTOPUS: An Open Cosmogenic Isotope and Luminescence Database” by Alexandru T. Codilean et al.

V. Godard

godard@cerege.fr

Received and published: 11 June 2018

The measurement of CRN concentration in active fluvial sediments is now a standard component of the Earth Surface Sciences toolbox, its increasing popularity being principally due the integrative nature of the method which allows to quantify denudation rates over length scales incorporating the full diversity of the processes contributing to landscape evolution. For that reason the database presented in this article is a very important contribution, and certainly represents a massive amount of work, a major part of which is not immediately apparent. Indeed, compiling, homogenizing and standardizing more than 3000 individual data points is already quite an achievement. It should be stressed, however, that the use of detrital CRN data rely primarily on the extraction of the watersheds corresponding to each of the sampled locations. Due to various is-

Printer-friendly version

Discussion paper



sues related to stream width, DEM resolution, network topology, error margins in the sampling points coordinates provided in each study, etc this is a process that can not be reliably automated and will often requires manual input to position the outlets at their true location. Having myself started (and quickly abandoned) to set up such database some years ago, I am impressed by the amount of work which has been put into building this one. This is a first version of the database, and I have already been able to use it very profitably for a couple of research projects and the preparation of a proposal. There are certainly some points which can be improved and, with the help of community feedback, it will obviously evolve and mature with time, with the addition of new datasets, as well as technical improvements to the database and the server, but I am convinced that it has the potential to become a key ingredient in a large number of global or regional future studies.

Interactive comment on Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2018-32>, 2018.

Printer-friendly version

Discussion paper

