

## ***Interactive comment on “Soil erosion evolution and spatial correlation analysis in a typical karst geomorphology, using RUSLE with GIS” by Cheng Zeng et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #3**

Received and published: 30 January 2017

The authors present a classical RUSLE application in a Karst area in China. The paper gives a nice overview of soil erosion estimation in karst regions.

Although, the use of the RUSLE is disputed in soil erosion community because of its limitations and weaknesses, there is still no better alternative for modelling the estimation of long-term soil erosion on disturbed hillslopes.

It is an interesting study, clear, concise and within the scope of the journal. I only have a comment to improve discussion and recommend this manuscript for publication in Solid Earth after minor revisions.

The introduction is well written including previous scientific work, the relevance of topic

C1

and specific objectives. Also study area as well as material and methods are well described.

Strongly required is a better discussion with a comparison to other studies using RUSLE. Please discuss your findings with current knowledge of soil erosion in karst regions and in general. In the current form it is more an interpretation than a discussion!!!

Please improve the language. There are some careless mistakes throughout the manuscript.

I did not check the correctness of the equations. Authors refer to existing literature, therefore they should be correct.

I have not checked in detail if authors adequately adhere to the journal's Guide for Authors.

I have not checked plagiarism.

---

Interactive comment on Solid Earth Discuss., doi:10.5194/se-2017-1, 2017.

C2