Interactive comment on “Short Communication: TopoToolbox 2 – an efficient and user-friendly tool for Earth surface sciences” by W. Schwanghart and D. Scherler

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Dear Philippe Steer, thank you for your constructive comments on our manuscript. We appreciate your feedback and have accounted for all your corrections made both to the manuscript and to the code.

Your main concern about the manuscript is its weak reconciliation with the scope of Esurf being a thematic journal. We agree that the originality of the paper is rather technical than thematic and that is the reason why we chose the format of a short communication. From the journal’s description of this format, it is our understanding that technical papers, which cover reports on “new developments, significant advances and novel aspects of experimental, modelling and theoretical methods and techniques which are relevant for scientific investigations” are well within the scope of Esurf (http://www.earth-surface-dynamics.net/submission/manuscript_types.html). We regard the second version of the TopoToolbox that comes along with novel and efficient computational techniques and includes state-of-the-art aspects of geomorphometric analysis as sufficiently new to merit publication as a short communication. These types of manuscripts should not exceed a few pages. While we appreciate your suggestions on including case studies in our manuscript, we think that this is not within the scope of the format and would make the manuscript not eligible as a short communication anymore. We also refrained from providing detailed descriptions of all the tools that are included in the TopoToolbox, some of which are indeed new or follow new concepts and have, to our knowledge, not previously been published (e.g., the STREAMobj and SWATHobj with their associated methods).

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