

Dear editor,

I improved the manuscript based on the comments :

**Language** The text was checked by native speaker and it was modified accordingly.

**Conclusions** I added general conclusions for authors and editors/reviewers.

*“This work provides an indication for authors preparing their manuscript for EGU journals, suggesting how many references are ”about right” in a paper. This is especially important for less experienced authors, as it shows if their citation strategy fits with the existing body of literature. Furthermore, reviewers or editors should be particularly careful in evaluating manuscript whose reference density is outside the range 1.87 – 6.18, as this indicate a non-standard (or outlying) manuscript with an unusually high (or low) number of references. ”*

Best regards,

Andrea Pozzer