

Manuscript: nhess-2016-345

Title: Factors influencing development of cracking-sliding failures of loess across the eastern Loess Plateau of China

Comments	Responses
What do you mean? Geohazard, or what?	It's geohazard. We have revised it in the manuscript accordingly.
I do not understand this. Do you mean slopes mostly exposed to the sun light? Please rewrite in better English.	Yes. Addressed as suggested.
I believe there are more older citations of this for the term loess. You should probably indicate the oldest ones, followed by this one, if you like.	The oldest citations are referenced. Richthofen, 1882 & Pye, 1987
Please specify whether you are here referring to failure of natural karst cave, or of cavity built by man. You could refer to the following articles: Gutierrez F., Parise M., De Waele J. & Jourde H., 2014, A review on natural and human-induced geohazards and impacts in karst. Earth Science Reviews, vol. 138, p. 61-88, doi: 10.1016/j.earscirev.2014.08.002. Parise M., 2013, Artificial caves as a possible danger: sinkholes and other effects at the surface. Opera Ipogea, n. 1, p. 95-102. Parise M., 2015, A procedure for evaluating the susceptibility to natural and anthropogenic sinkholes. Georisk, vol. 9 (4), p. 272-285, DOI:10.1080/17499518.2015.1045002.	The caving in the manuscript refers to the failure of cavity built by human. This is clarified in the revised manuscript.
Poor english, please rewrite.	The language is reconstructed as suggested. Thanks.

I do not understand. Is subsidence due to tectonics, or to gravitational processes? Please explain better.	The subsidence is due to tectonic movements. It is clarified in the revision.
On which bases did you exclude the others? What were the criteria you used for select the sample to analyze?	The samples were selected by verifying the reliability, accuracy, and completeness of the original records of the failure events.
I would change this term in something like "Slopes mostly exposed to sunlight"	Addressed as suggested.
It would be interesting to know if you have the time of failure for all the cases you selected, or not	Yes, we have the time of failure for all selected cases and the analysis are based on these records.
You should check also this paper: Del Prete S. & Parise M., 2013, An overview of the geological and morphological constraints in the excavation of artificial cavities. In: Filippi M. & Bosak P. (Editors), Proceedings 16th International Congress of Speleology, Brno, 21-28 July 2013, vol. 2, p. 236-241.	Thanks for the recommendation.
Colors are too dark, writing is not clear	Addressed as suggested.

All comments from the editor have been addressed in this revision. Thank the editor very much for these valuable suggestions and corrections.