

## ***Interactive comment on “Brief Communication: Use of multicopter drone optical images for landslide mapping and characterization” by Guglielmo Rossi et al.***

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**General comments** This is an interesting paper demonstrating the application of a UAV to geohazard research. I found it appropriate to the journal as a Brief Communication. However, there are a large number of small technical issues with the paper that I strongly believe need addressing. To help with this I have attached the PDF of the manuscript with marked comments at the required locations. They are all simple edits that could help the document reach the quality needed for publication. They are not intended as criticism but to aid the authors in improving their work.

**Specific comments** To improve the scientific quality of the authors' future manuscripts I would suggest they familiarize themselves with the difference between accuracy and

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precision. The number of GCPs used is important to the accuracy of the construction of 3D models. See Harwin et al., 2015. (The impact of the calibration method on the accuracy of point clouds derived using UAV multi-view stereopsis) as an example of why. Detailing the number of GCP coordinates collected is important as it influences the spatial error and the quality of each model used in the comparison. Also, normally the RMSE of the GCPs is reported in SfM manuscripts. Any error that exists in one model propagates as an error when comparing with the other survey dates. Viewing the figures suggests that this was not an issue however it would be optimal to state error measurements in the text.

**Technical corrections** Numerous grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure problems exist. It is very distracting to read. This is partially owing to the fact the author(s)' first language is not English. Undoubtedly this must be a challenge. In the attached document there are several suggested edits to help improve the legibility of the manuscript.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<http://www.nat-hazards-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/nhess-2017-46/nhess-2017-46-RC1-supplement.pdf>

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