

Interactive comment on “Towards adaptable, interactive and quantitative paleogeographic maps” by N. Wright et al.

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Review of the paper: “Towards adaptable, interactive and quantitative paleogeographic maps” by N. Wright, S. Zahirovic, R. D. Muller, and M. Seton

Evaluation: very good (2) Recommendation: moderate revision

The paper consists of two parts. The manuscript of the paper and the supplement. I am not able to evaluate the supplementary data because it contains the huge amount of files in format, which I am not able to read (It is a vacation time, I am out of the office and time for review is very short). The main part of reviewed paper is well worth publishing because it represents a valuable contribution to the Earth Sciences. It addresses some relevant scientific questions within the scope Biogeosciences. It has a potential

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to be of interest for broad audience and could bring new important view on BG. However The manuscript is in a form of the announcement of work, which the scientific team is performing. The presented methods look valid, the authors can also provide information about future work, especially about the problems, gaps and so on. The discussion about the discrepancies between paleogeographic maps and databases will help. Especially the cases when the data do not fit the paleoclimatic position, for example. I do not like the “50 million years approach to the presentation of paleogeographic maps. Better to provide the times meaning something, like maximum transgression and so on. Perhaps authors may leave it in this moment but state that they will avoid this approach in the future. The discussion about the used stratigraphy/stratigraphic chart especially the timing of highlighted boundaries and assignment of data would help. I do not understand the choice of choice of the time slices for detailed evaluation. On one hand short slice like Emsian, on the other hand the whole Cretaceous.

The paper is well written but requires some additional editorial/technical work.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 9, 9603, 2012.

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