



EGUsphere, community comment CC2
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Reply on AC1

Vasiliy Tikhonov

Community comment on "Brief communication: Classification of thawed/frozen topsoil state by spectral gradient methods based on SMAP and GCOM-W1 radiometric data" by Konstantin Muzalevskiy et al., EGU sphere,
<https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-2022-224-CC2>, 2022

Dear Editors,

In contrast to the authors of the article, I will be brief.

I do not and will not chase the article out of publication. I have no conflict of interest with either the topic of the article or the first author. My research is not directly related to the topic of the article and I met the first author just once and for a very short time.

It happened so that this article, though in Russian, was sent to me for review from *Sovremennye Problemy Distantionnogo Zondirovaniya Zemli Iz Kosmosa* (<http://jr.rse.cosmos.ru/?lang=eng>). I received it on April 8, 2022. On May 14, 2022, I sent a negative review to the editors and recommended to rejected it. It is the editorial board of the journal that decides whether to publish an article or not and I am not a member of it. The article was rejected by the journal's editorial board. In my previous comments, I cited my review of the Russian version of the article (translated into English) to show that both versions are the same, but written in different languages (Russian and English), and also to show my attitude to the presented material. The authors decided to respond to my comments and did so in great detail. However, their answers are not satisfactory: a lot of text and reasoning and almost no specific answers to my comments. This time I am not a reviewer of the article and I have neither desire nor time to continue the discussion. I believe the actual reviewers of the article and the Editors of *The Cryosphere* will make a right decision on its fate.

On June 26, 2022, I received the same article (in Russian) for review from *Issledovaniya Zemli Is Kosmosa* (<https://sciencejournals.ru/journal/iszem/>). I declined reviewing as I had already reviewed it. On June 28, 2022, the journal sent the article to another reviewer who sent his review back to the journal on July 7. Then the authors withdrew the article from that journal.

The rules for authors of *Sovremennye Problemy Distantionnogo Zondirovaniya Zemli Iz Kosmosa* state that "Only high-quality original research work, not published previously and not under review with another journal, is accepted for publication" (<http://jr.rse.cosmos.ru/default.aspx?id=5&lang=eng>). The *Cryosphere's* Obligations for authors include Paragraph 7 with a similar requirement (https://www.the-cryosphere.net/policies/obligations_for_authors.html). As far as I know, *Issledovaniya*

Zemli Is Kosmosa adheres to the same rules.

Now let us have a look at the dates of submission of the article to different journals. The article page (<https://egosphere.copernicus.org/preprints/2022/egosphere-2022-224/>) shows that it was submitted to The Cryosphere on April 16, 2022, and opened for discussion on July 6, 2022. Thus, while under review in The Cryosphere, the article was submitted to two other journals, first, to Sovremennye Problemy Distantionnogo Zondirovaniya Zemli Iz Kosmosa (my negative review is dated May 14) and, second, to Issledovaniya Zemli Is Kosmosa (no later than June 26, 2022, when I declined reviewing). In addition, the review for Issledovaniya Zemli Is Kosmosa was not sent to the journal until July 7, 2022. At that time the article was already under discussion in The Cryosphere.

Evidently, the authors violated publication ethics twice. I don't know how the Editors of The Cryosphere treat this fact, but I'm aware that the two Russian journals above strive to enforce publication ethics in full.

Kind regards,

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