Comment on essd-2021-148
Demetrio Boltovskoy (Referee)


The SO-RAD database is undoubtedly a major aid for future radiolarian-based biogeographic and paleoclimatic studies. It is thoroughly edited and the compilation of the data is clear and informative, with an excellent coverage of both the data included and the potential shortcomings. I browsed through the text and the database file, and did not find any typos or errors. For future enhancements of this database, I have the following suggestions:

(1) For each sample, the provenance of the data (i.e., publication) could be included

(2) Consider the inclusion of additional sources with data for the area covered. Some potential candidates are:
Molina-Cruz, A. 1978. Late Quaternary oceanic circulation along the Pacific coast of South America. Unpublished Ph.D. Thesis, Oregon State University, Oregon, USA.


(3) Consider including an appendix with a reference or references for the taxonomic interpretation of each species and, if possible, several representative images.

These additions, however, do not in any way diminish the value of the database, and the authors might have reasonable arguments for NOT including them.