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Comment on **essd-2021-280**

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Community comment on "A multi-dimensional dataset of Ordovician to Silurian graptolite specimens for virtual examination, global correlation and shale gas exploration" by Hong-He Xu et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-280-CC2>, 2021

Graptolites are widely used as index fossils for determining rock ages and biostratigraphic correlations from the Middle Ordovician to the Telychian of the Silurian period. 1,550 high-resolution images of 41 genera and 16 families of Graptolites were never seen before. This is a high-quality dataset. Images with high quality in this dataset are well helpful for geological surveys and field practice in China. However, this is a dataset instead of a handbook. There are limits in the fieldwork. Why not develop an automated classification application or an e-book on a cellphone based on these graptolite data? Did you try the automatic classification□
In addition, there is a photo scale in Figure 3. But images in Figure 4 have no plotting scales. Do they have the same scale□