

Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., referee comment RC1  
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## Comment on **essd-2022-103**

Alessandro Rebez (Referee)

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Referee comment on "The European Preinstrumental Earthquake Catalogue EPICA, the 1000–1899 catalogue for the European Seismic Hazard Model 2020" by Andrea Rovida et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2022-103-RC1>, 2022

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The work is well written and I don't see any critical issues.

The paper is important because it testifies to the great work that underlies the preparation of the seismic catalogs.

Very often the catalogs are only analyzed or used and those who use them completely ignore the methodologies that are adopted to create them.

I have only a few suggestions which I list in no particular order.

1] I find it interesting for the reader to know the total number of multiple records contained in the AHEAD database.

2] The earthquakes studied on a macroseismic basis in the Italian area guide the entire process of creating European catalogs.

In Fig. 2 it is clear that in the Italian area there are many earthquakes with a number of MDps  $\geq 101$ . But in Fig. 2 it is not possible to understand as they are covered by the symbols with fewer MDps.

To better explain this there are two solutions: make an enlargement of Italy - or alternatively a table with the number of earthquakes in the various classes of MDps.

3] I suggest making a bar chart for magnitude classes (bin data) from the EPICA catalog. This would help the user to understand the real content of the catalog itself.