

After reading through the revised version of the manuscript “Transfer of environmental signals from surface to the underground at Ascunsă Cave, Romania” by Dragusin et al. and I found that parts of the manuscript were significantly improved (Pros) but some issues still remain and need further revision (Cons):

Pros

1. The authors removed parts of the manuscript (associated with chemical analysis of drip water and calcite) and therefore added more focus to the manuscript.
2. The introduction was extended to include a broader overview of the field of research.
3. Many of the specific reviewer comments were addressed.

Cons

1. The field methods and monitoring program of the study is still very detailed but the authors did not add information on how the collected data is processed and analysed (i.e. the analysis of relation between the different observed variables, etc.).
2. The authors rejected the use of a quantitative/statistical measure to express the strengths of the relations they found between the observed data.
3. I accept that the authors chose to keep the merged results and discussion section but I neither find a more general discussion combining the individual results, nor I find a comparison to the work of others (of which there is plenty in the literature).

Point 2 and 3 of the Cons are, by my opinion, essential for publication in a Scientific Journal like HESS and the authors should think of ways to address them properly.