**Interactive comment on** “Significant total mass contained in small glaciers” by D. B. Bahr and V. Radić

M. O’Leary

olearym@umich.edu

Received and published: 4 March 2012

I feel it should be pointed out to readers unfamiliar with the statistics literature that the method used here to fit power law distributions (linear regression on a log-log scale) has been shown to produce incorrect results in cases where a power law is present, and quite often to "show" the existence of a power law where there is none.

A paper describing these effects can be found at http://arxiv.org/abs/0706.1062 and accompanying code which more accurately tests for power laws and their parameters can be found at http://tuvalu.santafe.edu/~aaronc/powerlaws/

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 6, 737, 2012.