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Interactive comment on “Estimation of volume changes of mountain glaciers from ICESat data: an example from the Aletsch Glacier, Swiss Alps” **by J. Kropáček et al.**

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In view of the referee comments and my own reading of the manuscript, my decision is to reject the manuscript for publication in The Cryosphere. Whilst both referees are quick to point out that the paper is, in principle, topical and of interest, they identify a number of quite serious issues that would appear to preclude a straight-forward revision. In particular, they note that the underlying rationale and focus of the paper needs substantially revising and clarifying, especially in view of similar work recently published elsewhere. More seriously, both referees also draw attention to some methodological deficiencies that would need to be resolved before the paper could be said to offer sub-

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stantial progress beyond current scientific understanding, which is a criterion for The Cryosphere.

Interactive comment on The Cryosphere Discuss., 7, 3261, 2013.

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