

***Interactive comment on “Three-dimensional structural model of the Qaidam basin: Implications for crustal shortening and growth of the northeast Tibet” by Jianming Guo et al.***

**Anonymous Referee #2**

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“Three-dimensional structural model of the Qaidam basin: Implications for crustal shortening and growth of the northeast Tibet” by Guo, et al.

This paper deals with the geological evolution of a basin in the Tibetan Plateau. The theme is very interesting overall because it deals with the geological evolution of an interesting and very complex area. The methodology is innovative and the used tools are surely useful. Nevertheless, the paper lacks of data. These are poor or not presented in an exhaustive way. For example, the geometry and kinematics of the faults have not been well documented, as well as the stratigraphy of the basin. In fact, the relationships between structures and sedimentation are primary analyses to be done dealing with evolution of a basin. This is completely omitted in the paper. Also the

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seismic interpretation needs of more strong geological constrains. This is why, in my opinion, this paper has to be improved a lot before to be published. Best regards

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