**Geoscientific
Model Development
Discussions**

Interactive comment on "The Rock Geochemical Model (RokGeM) v0.9" by G. Colbourn et al.

J. C. Hargreaves (Editor)

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I attempted to obtain the model, compile it and run testcases. I rate the experience so far as "poor". Some revision is required to clarify the process. The first reviewer suggested that some of the technical information be moved to the supplementary information. In general this is not required in GMD papers, but I take the point that too much logistical information can disrupt the flow of the manuscript. In this case the available manuals are very opaque, so an extended description seems likely to be required, and I suggest you write an appendix on obtaining and compiling the code (and running testcases). Longer documentation such as manuals may be uploaded as supplementary information.

Think in terms of what is required for downloading and compiling any piece of software. First of all the user needs to know the prerequisites: on which computer architecture

does the model run, and what external libraries are required. Secondly they need to know how to download the code. This latter point is mentioned in the present paper, but the url provided was not robust to the download method. Thirdly the user needs to know how to change the environment variables: directory paths, compiler options, library locations etc. Fourthly, they need instruction on how to compile the code in order to run test cases. Instruction for running the configurations described in the paper could also be usefully included.

Unless I have missed something, simply linking the to available genie/cgenie manuals (which the author enabled me to obtain) will not be sufficient. I could find no clear instructions addressing the requirements outlined above. Rather, the various files caused confusion as there seem to be a number of partial descriptions of possibly outdated approaches for getting the model working.

Please thoroughly revise this aspect of the manuscript. After revision, I will have another go at accessing the model. You do not have to write a large general document, but rather a clear, concise description which may pertain solely to your particular version of the model.

Interactive comment on Geosci. Model Dev. Discuss., 5, 2007, 2012.