

Interactive comment on “Comment on “Estimating actual, potential, reference crop and pan evaporation using standard meteorological data: a pragmatic synthesis” by McMahon et al. (2013)” by T. A. McMahon et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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The comment presents a correction to actual evapotranspiration computations in one of the worked examples of the original paper. The correction arises from forcing the calculated equilibrium temperature of the Szilagyi-Jozsa method to remain below or at the air temperature, which is physically sound. Although the correction produces a relative minor reduction on the computed values of evapotranspiration (about 10%), the results tend to be more consistent with the observed precipitation values. The consistency is given by the fact that only two stations in table 1 have values of evapotranspiration that are larger than precipitation (which is physically impossible) but those

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two values are within 20% of the precipitation. With the typical errors associated with evapotranspiration computations, these differences are not surprising. In short, the authors have shown how one of the methods presented previously can be improved and present calculations to show the magnitude of the improvement. It must be noted that the original paper has a strong practical application focus. In that regard, the comment is a valuable addition to the original paper and therefore I recommend its publication.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 10, 8781, 2013.