

## Response to editor

Dear Claudia and colleagues,

This is a nice paper, definitely worth to be published. You have been given 3 reviews, which I find all to be good and in-depth types of reviews. Thus, I recommend that you follow those reviews in the manner that you proposed in your response letter and then the paper will be ready for publication. [Thank you for your compliment. We implemented all changes we proposed in the revised version.](#)

I have to admit that I found it a bit strange that you cite and briefly discuss applications to lowland regions with models made for catchments with topographic gradients (such as WASIM-ETH and SWAT), but did not mention there the work by Stefan Krause in the lowland region of the Lower Havel, where he applied a groundwater model (Modflow) coupled to an unsaturated zone module, (see e.g. Krause, S., Jacobs, J., Bronstert, A. (2007): Modelling the impacts of land-use and drainage density on the water balance of a lowland-floodplain landscape in Northeast Germany. Ecological Modelling, 200(3-4), 475-492). Also the pioneering work of Sophocleous on lowland / groundwater dominated catchments should be mentioned in this paper. I realize that you give some credit to those works in the accompanying gmd paper, but the applications results are worth to be mentioned here, as well. [We agree that these papers are relevant to this research and we were happy to include them in the introduction.](#)

In general I find that these concepts, which follow an intermediate / feasible approach between empirical concepts and fully Darcy/Richards approaches (like the one of, e.g., Maxwell and Kollet) have shown to be most successful for such catchment type. Your model fits into this type of intermediate, successful concepts. [We appreciate your faith in our new model. We think and hope that WALRUS will be a valuable contribution to the hydrologist's tool box.](#)

Kind regards, Axel Bronstert