

Interactive comment on “Identification of catchment functional units by time series of thermal remote sensing images” by B. Müller et al.

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Dear Referee #2,

Thank you very much for your review of our manuscript. We found 4 main tasks that should be considered in a revised version of the manuscript.

- 1.) The need to add background to and justification for applied methods in the methods section. As of now, please note our answer to Referee #1. We will certainly add a paragraph making this much clearer.
- 2.) The need to add context with regard to the application of HRUs. Given both reviewer comments on that issue, we will discuss the benefits of HRUs, but also some of the

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current discussion on the concept of functional units (see discussion in Zehe et al. (2014) in HESSD) but only to a certain degree. A reference to those papers will be included as well.

3.) The suggestion to explore in some more details the benefits and possible applications of our work as well as improvements of common practice in a more concise way will certainly largely improve the paper and we will add a paragraph outlining these benefits to abstract, introduction and conclusion.

4.) Some complementing information on our test site, especially with regard to transferability will be added to the data and preprocessing section.

These changes will certainly help to improve the current work and we will add them to a revised version.

We acknowledge for your encouraging statements.

B. Müller on behalf of all authors

References:

Zehe, E. and Ehret, U. and Pfister, L. and Blume, T. and Schröder, B. and Westhoff, M. and Jackisch, C. and Schymanski, S. J. and Weiler, M. and Schulz, K. and Allroggen, N. and Tronicke, J. and Dietrich, P. and Scherer, U. and Eccard, J. and Wulfmeyer, V., & Kleidon, A. (2014). HESS Opinions: Functional units: a novel framework to explore the link between spatial organization and hydrological functioning of intermediate scale catchments. *Hydrology and Earth System Sciences Discussions*, 11(3), 3249-3313.

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