

Editor Decision: Reconsider after major revisions (11 Jan 2016) by Nandita Basu

Comments to the Author:

The manuscript is a modeling study assessing the spatial generation of surface runoff in the Ganges basin. However, the actual model has already been published, and so I do not see the paper as having adequate technical content to be published as a stand alone paper in HESS. I have two possible suggestions for the author:

1. There are suggestions made by reviewer 3 that if adequately addressed can be sufficient to warrant publication. For example, consideration of upstream-downstream flows, or addressing the question of subsurface storage and its impact on the timing of the flows.
2. The other option would be to integrate this paper with the other paper in HESS instead of a two paper series.

I would ask the authors to consider either or both these options for publication.

We thank the editors for their suggestions. We have revised the paper as suggested by the three anonymous reviewers and the editor. In the revised version, we have added a case study based on Ramganga sub-basin to demonstrate the impact of the subsurface storage on the timing of the flows. Also, we modified the section on floods by incorporating new analysis based on satellite derived flood inundated areas. All the new sections are highlighted in the revised manuscript.