

***Interactive comment on “Shift of annual water balance in the Budyko space for a catchment with groundwater dependent evapotranspiration” by X.-S. Wang and Y. Zhou***

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We will consider Dr. Donohue's comments in revising the manuscript.

However, it is clear that the highlighted problem (the role of groundwater dependent ET in annual water balance) in our manuscript was not soundly analyzed in Wang et al. (WRR, 2012), Chen, Alimohammadi and Wang (WRR, 2013), Potter et al. (WRR, 2005) and Zhang et al. (jHyd, 2008).

In these previous studies, inter-annual variation in storage was highlighted but only Wang et al. (2012) mentioned the groundwater contribution for ET in a few of sentences

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in the discussion part. Wang et al. (2012) did not analyze how groundwater dependent ET in a natural state will create  $F > 1$  cases.

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