

Interactive comment on
**“Intensity-Duration-Frequency and spatial
analysis of droughts using the Standardized
Precipitation Index” by M. Mohseni Saravi et al.**

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The theme of the paper is certainly suitable for the journal and topical for water resources practical applications. On the other hand, the method is not original and, in order to be of sufficiently wide interest to merit publication in an international journal, the paper should have presented an accurate application to the specific case study area and a pertinent, exhaustive interpretation, in order to provide useful information about the hydrology of a particular region. Unfortunately, as underlined by both Referees, the application, especially as far as the analysis of the spatial extent of droughts is concerned, is questionable and does not allow to objectively identify the most drought-

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prone areas in the region; it follows that also the interpretations and conclusions are not sufficiently justified by the data nor by the analysis that was carried out.

The Authors are kindly asked to submit their replies as soon as possible. As far as this point is concerned, the Authors have had plenty of time to answer to the remarks made by the Referees (more than a month for the first comment and more than two weeks for the second): especially given that the comments are not positive, I believe that if the Authors believed their paper to be worthy, they should have submitted their replies as soon as the Referee's Comments were published and certainly well in advance of the end of the discussion phase. I am sorry that the Authors have missed this chance to explain earlier their point of view and to support their choices and the overall work, since this is the spirit of the Discussions in HESSD and further discussion and exchange of ideas with the Referees may have enriched their research and its future development.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 6, 1347, 2009.

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