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Interactive comment on "High-resolution satellite-based cloud-coupled estimates of total downwelling surface radiation for hydrologic modelling applications" by B. A. Forman and S. A. Margulis

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Received and published: 28 May 2009

general comments: a very clearly presented decription of the cloud-coupled model to estimate downwelling surface radiation. The algorithm is well explained and therefore easy to understand. A comparison with in situ measurements is presented to show the performance, also the connection to the applcation for hydrology is explained.

specific comments:

1. There exist two products within the LAND-SAF (Land surface analysis - satellite ap-

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plication facility; this is an international project sponsered by EUMETSAT) which deal with the problem: DSSF (downwelling surface short-wave radiation flux) and DSLF (downwelling surface long-wave radiation flux) These products, based on SEVIRI data of Meteosat satellites, are calculated operationally for certain regions of the globe (but NOT for North America). Although they differ in the data which are used and the geo-graphical region from the model presented in the manuscript they should be mentioned.

2. In chapter 2.3 it is mentioned that the product MOD43 (black-sky and white sky albedo) is used. This product is available in 16-day interval. It seems that this could cause problems in regions/seasons of melting snow. Although it might be no problem for the area selected here, such a coarse temperoral resolution leads to limitation in global use. It would be nice if it this would be mentioned.

technical corrections:

p.3041 line 11 ".... at 4 km/h resolution" should be relaced by ".... at a spatial resolution of 4 km and a temporal resolution of 1 h"

p.3043 line 21 "Bloschl" should be relaced by "Bloeschl" p.3071 line 12 same as above p.3053/3054 equation (3) alpha-dif is not explicitly declared

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 6, 3041, 2009.