

Interactive comment on “Modeling nutrient in-stream processes at the watershed scale using Nutrient Spiralling metrics” by R. Marcé and J. Armengol

R. Marcé and J. Armengol

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Dear Editor and referees,

First, we want to thank your efforts in reviewing our paper in such a detail. We agree with the Editor that we were well served by the interactive discussion, and we are confident that the new version of the paper more clearly addresses the main findings associated to our work. For us, the interactive discussion of this paper was a very interesting and suggestive exercise. Please, find detailed response to referees' comments in the appropriate link.

We restructured the discussion and expanded the results to put emphasis on the comparison of phosphorus retention results between our model and the bibliograph-

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ical data. We expanded this analysis with Vf values and relationships with ambient nutrient concentration, and we also put our work in context using recent literature on the subject. We think that the new version defines a paper more focused on the biogeochemical ramifications of our results, with less emphasis on philosophical modelling issues maybe not so interesting for a publication like HESS. We also include suggestions about future contributions on the subject, both in the modelling area and in the empirical framework. Finally, many minor comments related to the limitation of our modelling approach have been addressed, although some of them were only recognised because of limitations in the available data.

We consider that the new version is a clearer and more persuasive presentation of our work. We are also confident that the results presented in this paper will be influential in the field of river nutrient retention and modelling, and open some interesting discussions that will prompt further contributions.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information concerning the manuscript. We look forward to seeing your decision.

Sincerely,

Rafael Marcé and Joan Armengol

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 6, 501, 2009.

HESSD

6, S631–S632, 2009

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