

Interactive comment on “Streamflow trends in Europe: evidence from a dataset of near-natural catchments” by K. Stahl et al.

K. Stahl et al.

kerstin.stahl@hydrology.uni-freiburg.de

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We thank H. Lins for his encouraging review and the recognition of the results as a benchmark of European streamflow trends. The analysis of shifting trends is most interesting and certainly would be a relevant additional analysis for this European dataset. We did consider the approach by McCabe and Wolock 2002, which was also recently applied to floods by Schmocker-Fackel et al, and work using a ‘moving windows’ approach is in fact ongoing. However, we found two difficulties with its inclusion in this paper. Firstly, we found that 1952 or 1962–2004, for which we have best coverage is too short to capitalize fully on the approach. Hence this would shift the focus away from as-good-as-possible Pan-European coverage. Secondly, by summarizing these results

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in terms of number of pos/neg trends in each sub-period, we loose the geographical focus including the contrasting north-south trends. Nevertheless, we certainly acknowledge the deficiencies of our current approach and will include a comment on that, as it is also an issue raised by referee A. Viglione for the specific case of shifting trends in southern France.

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