

***Interactive comment on “HESS Opinions
“Ensembles, uncertainty and flood prediction”” by
S. L. Dance and Q. P. Zou***

HHG Savenije (Editor)

h.h.g.savenije@tudelft.nl

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This paper has been intensively discussed, and this is a good thing. Most of the referees and discussants pointed out that the discussion paper was incomplete or not really presenting something new. Some even remarked it was trivial. The authors replied to this criticism clarifying much of the shortcomings. However the main impression that remains is that the paper is mostly a summary of workshop recommendations rather than a real opinion paper, as was pointed out by Verkade. If the authors want to resubmit, then they will have to revise the paper substantially and make sure that there are new insights, new opinions, or clearly new directions to be pursued. An opinion paper can not easily be assessed in terms of the correctness of the opinions; it remains

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an opinion. But an opinion paper should contribute something new to the discussion, in a way that it triggers new ideas or new directions in which the science of hydrology can develop. A substantially revised resubmission will be reviewed again against these criteria.

Interactive comment on *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss.*, 7, 3591, 2010.

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