

***Interactive comment on* “Comparison of catchment grouping methods for flow duration curve estimation at ungauged sites in France” by E. Sauquet and C. Catalogne**

E. Sauquet and C. Catalogne

eric.sauquet@cemagref.fr

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P3245 There is a reference to Hydro-EcoRegions, without a reference to how these were derived. I assume there exist a publication, if not there should be some more details about how these were derived. If it was done by the authors, it should be stated explicitly.

==> It was done: we have added the reference and the link to the relevant Section that presents the HERs.

P3247 There is an explanation of CCA that is fairly detailed, but still challenging to
C2378

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follow. Maybe a few more lines explaining how to obtain the canonical variables would make it clearer.

==> We have added some details. We hope it is now clear.

P3249 The summary of correlations between canonical variables is hard to read, maybe a table would simplify.

==> The text has been modified.

P3249 It is claimed that the hydrological variables are two ratios free from scale effect. I am not sure if this is completely correct, wouldn't the scale at least influence the shape of the curve? The effect would of course still be less pronounced than when comparing area directly with runoff.

==> The text has been modified. The two variables are indeed not totally free from the scale effect. We may expect a dependency between the degree of flatness of the FDC and the size of the drainage area (the larger the basin, the smoother the FDC). This effect is not dominant in our dataset. This reason motivates us not to keep the drainage area as candidate for the application of CCA.

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 8, 3233, 2011.

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