

## ***Interactive comment on “Catchment classification by runoff behaviour with self-organizing maps (SOM)” by R. Ley et al.***

**A. Castellarin (Editor)**

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Received and published: 8 July 2011

The Authors investigate by means of self organizing maps (SOM's) hydrological similarity in terms of catchment response. The study considers more than 8200 event runoff coefficients and flow duration curves for 53 gauged catchments in Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. Three independent Reviewers acknowledge that that this paper is of broad international interest and particularly pertinent to the Special Issue on Catchment Classification and PUB, which is also my opinion.

I believe that the Authors have adequately responded to the comments of the three reviewers, and are encouraged to upload a revised manuscript for further consideration of publication in HESS.

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Authors' replies to Reviewers comments are to the point, accurate and convincing and reveal that some of the Reviewers' concerns resulted from misinterpretations or misunderstandings. Since Reviewers' are expert scientists with a background on this topic, it is more than likely that other readers may share the same concerns with them. Therefore, I would like the revised manuscript to address and reflect all general comments raised by Reviewers, reporting the explanations similar to those given in the reply. I am saying this because the Authors do not explicitly mention their intention to modify the original text/Figures in all of their replies.

I sincerely hope that that Authors will find reviewers' comments and suggestions useful while preparing the revised manuscript.

With warm regards,

Attilio Castellarin

(Guest Editor)

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Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 8, 3047, 2011.

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