

***Interactive comment on “The International Soil Moisture Network: a data hosting facility for global in situ soil moisture measurements” by W. A. Dorigo et al.***

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This paper is intended to serve science but it does not present new science itself. Therefore it is not a "Research Article" in the classical sense, but more a review/state of the art/description of available resources (here the ISMN in particular).

As an editor, I believe that such papers should be part of our scientifically published and peer reviewed literature. Hence I have accepted it into HESS-D. Naturally, it is up to the scientific peer review process to evaluate whether it serves its intended purpose adequately or even if a paper of such focus is acceptable as a HESS publication.

The paper is intended to become the main reference to the ISMN and concentrates on  
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the way of how the ISMN has been set up so far. It follows the example of Alan Robock's paper on the Global Soil Moisture Data Bank (Robock, A., Vinnikov, K. Y., Srinivasan, G., Entin, J. K., Hollinger, S. E., Speranskaya, N. A., Liu, S., and Namkhai, A.: The Global Soil Moisture Data Bank, *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 81, 1281-1299, 2000).

Enjoy,

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