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Hydrology and Earth System Sciences Discussions

Interactive comment on "Spatio-temporal variations in soil hydrology of a typical semiarid sand-meadow-desert landscape" *by* L. Duan et al.

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The paper is well written and organized. The presentation of the spatiotemporal variability of soil moisture in relation to landscape parameters such as slope and land cover is well done. The data from the well instrumented site shows a very good influence of land cover/management and topography on soil moisture dynamics.

Thanks!

My only comment is for authors to to pick one example in each case to see the impact of topography, for instance on SM by referring two or more sites differing in slope but similar in other parameters like land cover and others. This can be done for land cover and also others. This will increase ease of readability of the manuscript.

Good point! In order to address this comment, Lines 5-8 on page 1904 are revised as:

"et al. (2008). The moisture of the high-altitude (186.2 to 200.3m; e.g., site F3) peripheral sandy areas was almost 10% lower than that of the medium-altitude (185.8 to 190.7 m; e.g., site E3(U))transitional zones, which in turn was about 18% lower than that of the low-altitude (188.6 to 189.5 m; e.g., site C3) interdune lowlands. This is because the high sand content (94.2 to 99.8%)"

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 8, 1895, 2011.